

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS

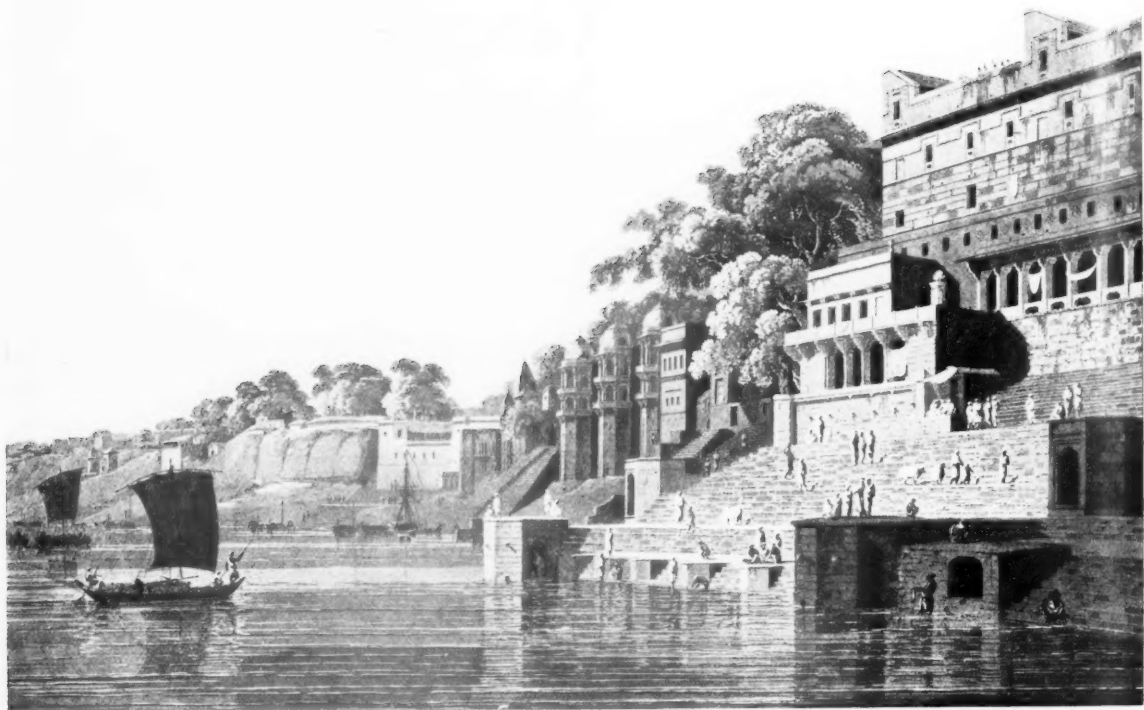
THIRD SERIES

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DUSASUMADE GAUT AT BENARES ON THE GANGES

By Thomas Daniel, R.A. (1749-1810)

From a Drawing in the R.I.B.A. Library

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JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE *of* BRITISH ARCHITECTS

VOL. 39. 3RD SERIES

4 JUNE 1932

No. 15

Journal

His Majesty the King has commanded that the Ulster Society of Architects shall in future be known as the Royal Society of Ulster Architects. This honour from His Majesty will gratify not only architects in Ulster but all those who see in this royal recognition of the society a stimulus to the promotion of the ideals for which the Royal Society of Ulster Architects stands. Each year it becomes increasingly recognised that such institutions as the R.I.B.A. and its allied societies exist for very much more than the simple furtherance of the well-being of architects; they have grown to be public servants in the fullest meaning of the phrase, able to render, and never more than now, innumerable services to the community as a whole. The title now conferred on the Society of Ulster Architects is a well deserved recognition of such service on the part of one of our allied societies and we congratulate them on the attainment of so well deserved an honour.

At the general meeting on 13 June the Wren Society is to present to the President and Council of the Institute a specially bound copy of the Ninth Wren Society volume, which deals with the Parochial churches of Sir Christopher Wren. This volume has been dedicated to the President and Council "in due remembrance of Professor Charles R. Cockerell, R.A., P.R.I.B.A., the first architect President who, as this volume testifies, was a devoted admirer and diligent student of the work of that incomparable architect, Sir Christopher Wren." The testimony of Cockerell's admiration for Wren is first shown by the reproduction in this volume of his superb drawing of Wren's buildings known as "The Tribute to Sir Christopher Wren," which was recently exhibited in the R.I.B.A. by the courtesy of Mrs. Henry Noel, and secondly by the reproduction in full of another great tribute to Wren, the inspiration for which came directly from Cockerell, the measured drawings of the City Churches, first published by John Clayton, F.R.I.B.A., in 1848. These drawings, which constitute the most complete delineation of the City churches yet made, are supplemented by reproductions of original drawings from the libraries of All Souls, the British Museum and the Soane Museum, with in addition a number of rare contem-

porary engravings from the Pepysian library at Magdalene College, Cambridge.

Those who know the superb manner in which these annual volumes of the Society are produced and who know the extent of the scholarship and, indeed, the labour of love that have been expended in their production will feel proud that the R.I.B.A. is now to share with their Majesties the King and Queen, and with All Souls College, to whom so many of the most valuable Wren drawings belong, the honour of having dedicated to it one of the Wren Society volumes; and, not for the first time, we would like to suggest that yet more members of the R.I.B.A. should carry admiration of the work of this Society to its proper conclusion by becoming regular subscribers.

Last Wednesday the House of Commons rejected by 222 votes to 154 the proposal of the London County Council embodied in a Money Bill that Waterloo Bridge should be pulled down and that a new six line bridge should be built in its place. However distressing it may be to see the deliberate opinion of a great local authority so emphatically gainsaid, the decision is one which will please a great majority of Londoners and in particular all those, among whom are many members and honorary members of this Institute, who have laboured with such patience and skill to attain this end. Those who were privileged to listen to the debate will in particular remember the excellent speech of Lord Balmiel, son of one of our most distinguished honorary members, the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, and that of Mr. Duff Cooper, who, following an earnest appeal from Sir William Ray for support for the L.C.C., an appeal that almost threatened to turn the issue, did more perhaps than any other speech to clinch the issue. The debate was opened by Sir William Davison and Lord Hartington, who admirably marshalled the many arguments in favour of preservation, arguments to which Mr. Pybus and Sir George Hume, who followed, managed to provide no effective answer except the expression of a blind faith in the County Council's judgment which, as it proved, the House was unwilling to accept.



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THE CITY OF LONDON.

THE following delightfully apposite poem appeared in *Punch* of 4 May. We publish it by kind permission of the proprietors of that paper.

THE MISSING NAME

Though I could not get to Stratford or join the pious ranks
Who marched in reverent homage along the Avon's banks,
I have studied most attentively the records in the Press
And gather that the function was a resonant success.

There was no lack of trumpeters, and banners were unfurled
By delegates collected from all corners of the world ;
But in none of all the speeches delivered on the spot
Could I find the faintest mention of the architect, Miss SCOTT.

I'm aware that many critics may legitimately think
That the building is suggestive of a Bolshevistic "clink,"
But, though the stark exterior is rather grim than grand,
Internally, they all admit, it's admirably planned.

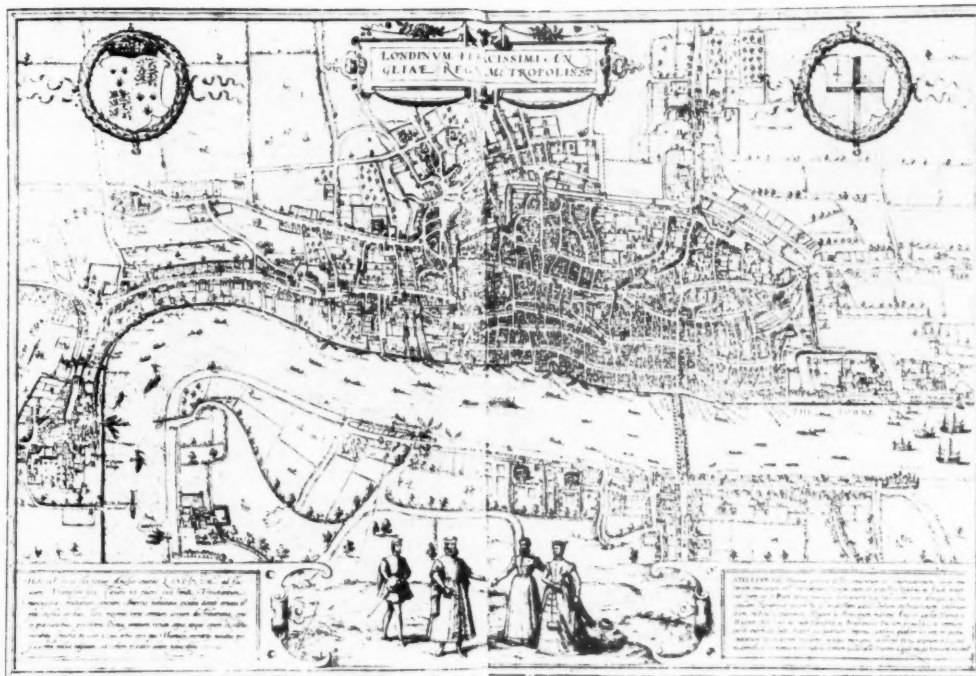
Now 'tis worthy of remembrance that the ultimate award
Represented the consensus of a most distinguished Board;
And there's another fact we cannot possibly ignore—
No woman architect has done a bigger job before.

And yet the gifted lady may lay this cheer to heart:
She shares a common grievance with the masters of her art;
For in Architecture's annals, however richly dight,
The names of the creators don't always leap to light.

In fact, had mighty CHRISTOPHER been living in our day,
There is no gross extravagance in venturing to say
That, if the opening of St. Paul's, with all the honours due,
Had been postponed from Seventeen-ten to Nineteen-thirty-two,

Though nothing might be lacking in pomp or circumstance
The grandeur and the glory of completion to enhance,
None of the chosen speakers, though great and learned men,
Would have thought it was improper to omit the name of WREN.

C. L. G.



*O, pretty days when city ways
Were pleasant still for Jack and Jill,
For down Bush Lane the hawthorn grew
And meadowsweet on Doggate Hill.*

*Full measure then of pleasure then
Was leisure's fill for Jack and Jill,
When down Love Lane the speedwell blew
And primroses on Tower Hill.*

FROM A MAP ENGRAVED BY HOEFNAGEL IN *Civitas Orbis Terrarum*, PUBLISHED ABOUT 1570

CITY OFFICE BUILDING

BY L. SYLVESTER SULLIVAN, V.P.R.I.B.A.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS ON MONDAY, 30 MAY 1932

THE PRESIDENT (DR. RAYMOND UNWIN) IN THE CHAIR

WHEN a somewhat plump person, staring at a message from MacAlister, realised that he was to read a paper before this Institute about City Office Building, he wondered where he was to begin, if at all, and, once started, where to end. He knew that London had been a City for something between 700 and 7,000 years—merely the little difference of a nought. As mathematicians know, the value of a nought is nothing, even though Quantity Surveyors might differ.

Before the Beginning, when not even time existed, there was an unimaginable nothingness—a less than

ethereal cypher. So we may conjecture the City of London as an unimportant nil, with the insentient souls of you and me, and Professor Richardson and the Lord Mayor and Corporation floating in the void, not even as yet conceptions in the translucent mind of The Creator—nixies multiplied by nixies—anteprotoplasmic O.X.O. without darkness and without illumination. Secret, soulless, unthinking, unhearing, unfeeling, unbreathing—blind and blank and formless—an utter and inconceivable and frightening—nothing.

What a state of mind to be in when expected to lay

down the law about so very concretely a thing as building.

Gradually, however, amidst an interfluxion of whirling and circling noughts, there came a slow conception of London appearing as flattish bubbles on the eruption of the World—not yet London, but merely heaving contours in the blue clay. Then, after a time, the minute trickle and ooze of the incipient Thames—not yet a river—followed by the arrival of a curious mat-haired and wide-eyed being in search of berries and unbrackish water—the first Londoner. Soon, hunger and thirst appeased, from the concealment of the scrub, the beckoning up of the woman, who wanted shelter. Then the teeth-gnashing chatter, the selection of a site and the making of the mud-pie that became not only the initial dwelling but, with the coming of others, the first place of barter. Thus the City Office was born. Accretions to it, with soon, a busy scene of clay-patters and mud-pie experts clustering their habitations along elementary lanes and sketchy thoroughfares. So Mark Lane and Love Lane and Idle Lane may have grown, and chaffering have begun where rubber and tea and demerara and ivory and indigo and croton seeds and chutnee and wine and drugs and ginger and pot-bellied gods from the east are brokered to-day.

The nothing had added a few more noughts to itself and become something. Mud gave place to wattle-and-daub, and wattle-and-daub to timber. Romans came and developed the mud-pie industry into brick and tile and pottery. Brick and timber allowed the erection of upper storeys and London began to grow upward. The houses leaned their peaked and beetled brows to each other and gossiped across the narrow ways, while chaffering continued as it had continued throughout the episodic sojourn of the Romans. London became a port, ships and fleets went and came opening up the world, while Pepys seethed about his Lane. Plague and fire and famine came and went. Inigo Jones came, and Wren (our first town-planner) and Gibbs and Chambers in true succession of mud-pie artists. People sunk wells and scratched the earth and London began to grow downwards. As the first Londoner created London through the needs of his appetite, so London is maintained to-day through the appeasement of our fads and fancies. The method of barter probably does not much differ in spite of Bills at three months, chatter continues on the Exchanges while London is still mostly haphazard and unorganised, and only we modernist mud-pie artists are sane—perhaps.

The first office I remember was in one of Randolph

Caldecott's picture books—"The King was in his Counting House, counting—" But here occurs a

CHEEKY INTERLUDE

for my daughter looked up from the square of the hypotenuse she had been murmuring over, demanding:—

"What's all this you're so quiet about, Father? Let's have a look."

So she had a look.

"It's awfully blotty," she commented and started to read.

"Your spelling is rotten," she said, "it's insentient, not insentient."

"Oh," said I, "then I'll have to scratch another blot."

She was quiet for a little except for a giggle and a glancing. "No wonder your hair is rough, Father." . . .

Then, "Is this all you've done?"

"Yes," I admitted.

"In all that time?"

"Yes, I'm afraid so."

"Well, Miss Hart *would* have a fit! Where's your scheme?"

"In my head," I hoped.

"That's no use. It's muddy. You must have a scheme and put down your headings and sub-headings, and *all* your ideas (if any) and arrange them in order of merit and keep the best firework for the set-piece at the end."

"But I haven't got any set-piece," I protested.

"Well, then, just a little squib. Anyway they'll say it's time the old man came down to brass tacks."

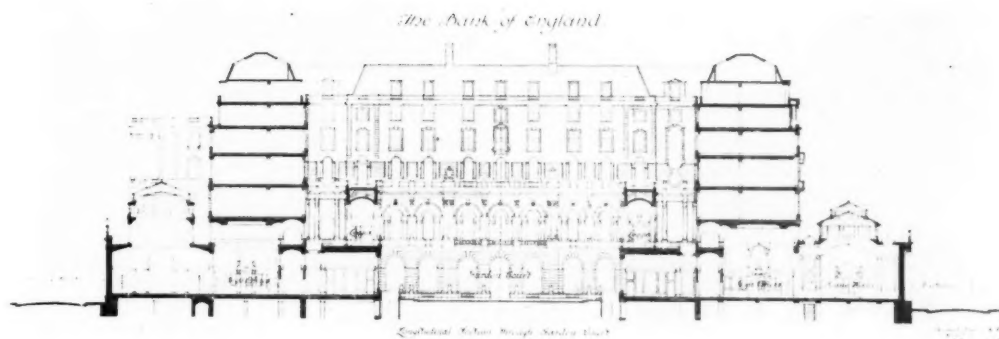
So after all I'm afraid I must cut out the bit about the King and his Counting House and henceforward it must be according to programme, with the warning that there is no squib; let us see if we can find any points amongst the

BRASS TACKS

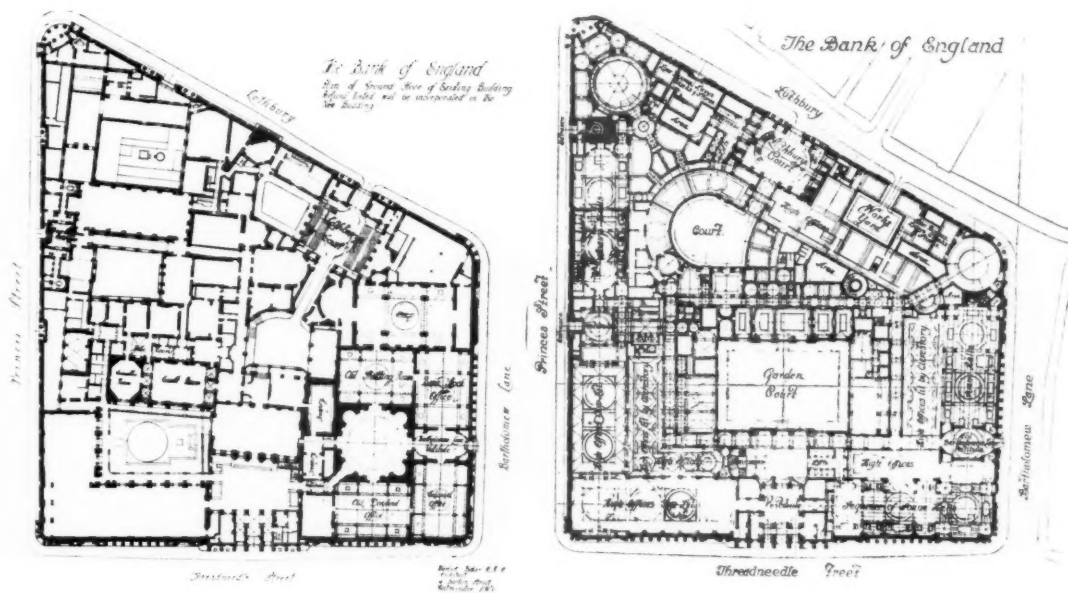
As is well known, the City is made up of a number of different business communities that tend to hang together in more or less loosely defined localities. These develop and react on one another on occasion, gradually, maybe, altering the character of a locality. Certain streets have been steadily changing their character. Banking, for instance, has been amalgamating and growing and is no longer confined to the immediate neighbourhood of the Bank of England. Cornhill, Lombard Street and Threadneedle Street are all short streets too limited to contain the business in spite of rebuilding. So Banks have been spreading round eastwards into Gracechurch Street and Bishopsgate and westwards along Cheapside. The removal of Lloyds is having its repercussion in the insurance world, the end of which is not yet.

THE SITE

Unless your building owner is in a hurry and has money to burn it requires years of patient foresight to acquire, extend and consolidate a site large enough to accommodate an office building, on an economic scale; even then it may be necessary to await the lapsing of leases, to negotiate their acquirement, to exchange freehold interests, or to arrange new lettings



THE BANK OF ENGLAND
Longitudinal section through Garden Court



THE BANK OF ENGLAND
The plan before and after the alterations

Sir Herbert Baker, R.A., Architect

on parts of the site so as to allow it to be dealt with as a whole. Generally speaking, you may be certain that most of the great modern buildings you see, that have been erected in the heart of the City, are the outcome of negotiation and investment extending over long periods. Property owning in the City is a long-sighted business hedged about with all kinds of difficulties, some only of which it will be possible to touch upon.

When called in to advise about the purchase of a site, it is necessary to consider the proposal at once from several aspects—but especially as regards opposing ancient lights. It is advisable, even at this early stage, having taken particulars of the neighbouring windows, to rough out plans and sections showing in a conservative manner what can be got out of the site from the economic standpoint. Questions of existing tenancies arise here also, for these may cause delay or have to be bought out and so add to the burden of cost, or even, if immediate development is required, render the site unsuitable.

Special considerations may arise where the clients are buying and building for their own occupation. Here, perhaps, their chief concern is not so much a profit rental as proper and convenient and possibly luxurious housing of the business in question. In these cases it is equally essential to consider the site at once in the way suggested in order to convince yourself that the project in mind is one they may be advised to proceed with.

RATING

In every case it is best to make the closest estimate you can of the rental value of the building in order to arrive at an approximate idea of the rates and taxes that will be an annual charge upon it. You will find that the rating authority will base their final valuation on the actual floor space of the building available for occupation, that is, they will make all proper allowances for staircases, lifts, corridors and services, and only concern themselves with the rental area of the letting spaces, or, when rents are known, with the rents themselves. Thus you will be able to negotiate and agree with the rating authority where the owners are the occupiers. In other cases where the buildings are let off at rentals, the rentals are the basis of valuation for assessment. Actual negotiations, however, will not take place until the buildings are finished, or perhaps even occupied.

ANCIENT LIGHTS AND AGREEMENTS

In the preparation of preliminary plans it may be disclosed that there is some dominating window light

tucked away in some neighbour's back area that may render your development so difficult as to make it desirable that the light, or the building it belongs to, should be bought out and added to the site. This question of neighbouring lights is of such importance that every consideration should be given to the problems they cause at the earliest moment. It should never be forgotten that they cannot safely be disregarded. At the same time, I believe that the bad old days of ancient-light blackmail are nearly, if not quite, past. Building owners are taking a more reasonable view with regard to lights, being more willing to enter into arrangements on give and take lines with a view to future development. Property can be enhanced in value if it is remembered that a site with definite rights is a more marketable proposition. A far-sighted client, with no immediate prospect of rebuilding himself, will see the advantage of agreements of this kind when his neighbour is rebuilding.

In this connection it is desirable to emphasize that mutual agreements to restrict the height of buildings fronting on narrow thoroughfares are frequently of more importance than mutual agreements to increase height in more open spaces, because high buildings in poorly lighted alleys are not profitable propositions.

APPROXIMATE ESTIMATES

Having satisfied yourself that your sketch plans are no more than is reasonable, take out your cubes, priced on the safe side, and arrive at an approximate cost of your building, plus architects' fees, added to the cost of the site and demolition together with reasonable interest on the whole for the length of time you estimate for the operations, the total of which will then represent your client's outlay.

On the other side of the account take out the net letting areas of each floor and put against each floor such rents per foot as will be reasonable for the neighbourhood—rents vary in neighbourhoods or even in the length of or from side to side of a street. Tot up these rents and you will have an approximation of your gross rentals. From these gross rentals deduct from 40 per cent. to 50 per cent. for rates, water, management, unlets, ground rent and sinking fund, if any, and insurance outgoings and you will get an approximation of your net return, which compared with your outlay will show you the interest on the capital and whether or not it is a proposition you can advise your client to proceed with. You will notice I have spoken about the cube being priced on the safe side and of rental estimates being reasonable. You will not need to be reminded that you are advising on schemes entailing large sums of money and

that your figures most surely will be closely scrutinized. You will do yourself no harm if your advice is found to be on the cautious side.

It may not be irrelevant here to mention one or two points to be borne in mind while working out the scheme, and certain facts that the scheme may have disclosed which will be of guidance in other schemes. Of course, it is at present tentative and has only been prepared with the object of enabling the clients to see what can be done with the site in the light of surrounding circumstances and if it is worth while to purchase. Modifications will certainly arise when their detailed requirements are fully known.

SITE VALUE

You will have had in mind the large cost of the land per foot super and, therefore, have valued it in inches—only specially luxurious clients will afford themselves a strip of land 5 or 6 feet deep around the perimeters of their sites for the architectural effect of columns which do not earn their keep. The land and loss of floor space entailed by the employment of these adornments will not as a rule be looked on favourably, and certainly not by clients building for revenue.

To give you some idea of the commodity you are using it may be well to remember that if you place a two-shilling piece on every square inch of the site you may still find that you will have to raise your offer to half-a-crown an inch before you are able to buy.

LONDON BUILDING ACT

You will remember that the building is in the City and under the London Building Act, but that certain parts of that Act do not run in the City, while, being an office building, certain other parts of the Act are ineffective. In the City the amended L.C.C. Bye-Laws regarding ventilation of w.c.'s do not apply, the City Corporation having its own regulations. City Bye-Laws require the least width of an area into which w.c.'s ventilate to be 5 feet to the opposite wall. Consequently any areas taken down into the basement for lavatory purposes must have at least that width in its narrowest part. Your building may be 80 feet high from the pavement in the centre of your frontage to the top of the parapet. Not being a trade building, it may have two storeys in the roof, but there does not appear to be any limit to the respective height of those storeys. If you apply to the London County Council to build vertical walls above the 80 feet limit it may be found that for this concession they will limit the total height to 100 feet and require the walls in question to be set back and kept

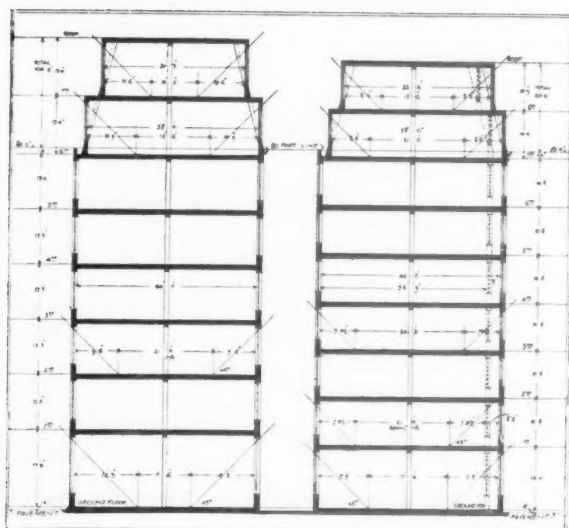
within the angle of 75° above the 80 feet line. On the other hand, you will realize that dormers are permissible and will find nothing in the Act that limits the length of a dormer. So by a little careful design you can, with dormers, obtain rather more floor space and still keep the inside of your upper storeys vertical though projecting through the angle of 75° . You will also notice that, being a high building as defined by the Act, the upper storeys must be fire-resisting, though this will hardly affect you beyond its remembrance, as there is little doubt that the whole of your building will be steel-framed and as fire resisting as you can make it. If your building is a bank or insurance office, or the Stock Exchange, it will have certain privileges not permissible in other buildings. If, of course, the job is the Bank of England, it is entirely exempt.

DIFFERENT CATEGORIES

In the main, office buildings seem to divide themselves into three categories. Firstly, there is the monumental building erected by the client for his own occupation—in this category may be put the home of "big business," with luxury in every public part and with glittering board and committee rooms. It is here the architect is expected to employ the 5 or 6 feet diameter columns already alluded to, with deep recesses and effective shadows in the façades, with windows of true architectural proportion and balance between void and walling, with great entrance openings cutting up through two or three storeys, and other caviare permitted to and expected by the epicurean magnate. This type is the mason's joy, rather pompous, solemn and watch-chainy, aldermanic and dignified. All, one suspects, quite good advertisement.

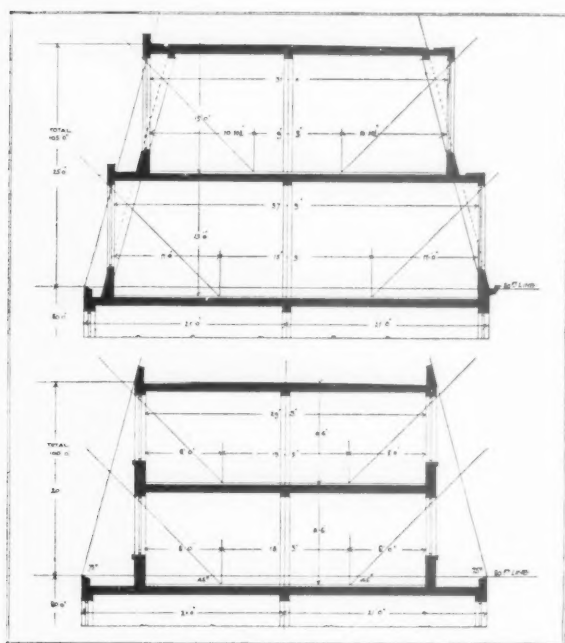
The next category differs from the first in degree because an economic return is expected to result, but are also buildings of a luxury type meant to appeal to big business not big enough to require whole edifices to themselves. These blocks may be a speculation, but are speculative only in the sense that they depend for their return on more or less numerous lettings. Their appointments and service are perfect and their owners are prepared to house their tenants in as luxurious a manner as may be desired. Their façades may be no less imposing and need quite as much of an air about them. Indeed, it is necessary that they should have, for they are inviting custom. "Come and live in me" they should seem to say. "I am important—let your business partake of my importance—let my luxury advertise your business."

The buildings in the third category are much more



The section on the right shows a block of 40 feet width between windows in which by general reduction of floor heights an extra storey is obtained thereby reducing the daylight value of all floors.

The section on the left shows in a similar block less greed for floor space and better respect for the value of daylight. In the first case, even were the block reduced in width to 36 feet 9 inches, the daylight value would still not be so good as in the other example while the floor space gained would total only a few hundred feet on the seven lower floors.



practical and mundane affairs, built to last, with what luxury there is about them generally concerned with simple quality, good entrance halls and staircases, sufficient lifts and first-rate sanitary arrangements. These are essentially economic propositions with as wide an appeal to prospective tenants as possible, with pleasant though inexpensive façades, and with floor spaces readily adaptable to division and change. This type is perhaps the most difficult to compass, for every aspect of economy must be borne in mind. There can be no expensive bargains about ancient lights, no expensive land given up for columns and recesses, no waste of floor space, every bit of which must have good daylight. Mere floor space in a building is valueless unless it is lettable, and to be lettable must be lit. The most successful building owner is the one who takes the free gift of daylight, protects it from the weather, and turns it into a commodity by combining it with his floor space to let or to sell by the foot.

NEW TYPE DEVELOPING

The economic consideration of these factors is developing a type of building with distinct characteristics that derive from stark economy of money and distribution of daylight, hampered in the latter respect by the limitations imposed by the Building Act. These limitations were imposed to ensure the stability of brick and stone walls before the advent of steel-framed structures, wherein the size of window openings has little more relation to stability than that required to resist wind pressure. [See the lower diagram on next page.]

COMBINATION OF CATEGORY

A complication is that sometimes a building has to combine the functions of the first of the three types named above, that is, where the client is building for his own occupation, with that of the third, where the surplus space is intended to earn sufficient to convert a partly uneconomic proposition into an economic one. This complication is not merely one of finance but of scale as between the high voids of the ground

FLOOR SPACE IN ROOFS: Diagram on left

The upper diagram indicates the approximate maximum of floor space in a block 40 feet between windows obtainable by the use of dormers as permissible by the Building Act, showing the height of the upper storeys unrestricted by any regulation, and a greater area of directly lighted floor space adjacent to the windows.

The lower diagram indicates in a block of similar width the possible restriction likely to be attached to a consent for vertical walling above the 80 feet line and shows the consequent lessened floor space and reduced height of the storeys with a consequently smaller area of directly lighted floor space adjacent to the windows.

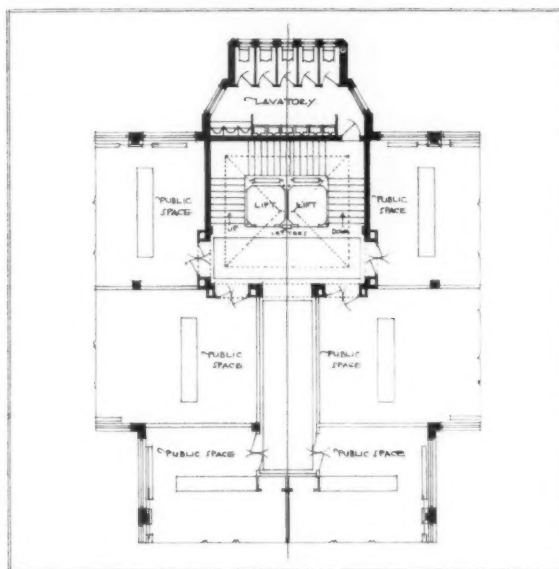
In both these cases the diffused light in the centre of the blocks would be sufficient for all ordinary office purposes.

storey and the lower voids between the upper shelves or floors of the dividend earning portions. Freshness of design—you will note I do not call it modernism—may serve where the academic manner breaks down owing to violent change of function and change of scale in the two parts of the building. And, too, there are the newer methods of construction which are gradually learning to express themselves as gracefully and certainly more lightly than the more ancient methods are able to do. I may be wrong, but I have a sorrowful idea that some of our newer buildings are already out of date in manner and proportion, not because the so-called "modernism" is more than a fashion or has come to stay, but because these buildings carry outworn clothing on forms and skeletons it was never meant for—like 1880 bustles on 1930 slimmess, protuberances no longer calling for concealment by exaggeration, because the protuberances are no longer there. The spacious manner of the Horse Guards does not lend itself to the narrower frontages of buildings of about three times the height, constructed of lightly covered steel skeletons. Nor, perhaps, would the function of the Horse Guards lend itself to an essay in the modernist manner—that might make an interesting programme as a school subject for our bright young things.

I would not have it thought that I am tilting at the academic or the modern, or that I am putting in a plea for either. If you can get a certain freshness in each of your designs that directly arises out of the problem itself, then you have done well for yourself and your neighbours and are to be congratulated. In other words, I would have you disregard fashion and go your own way provided that your way is lit by knowledge, study and good manners.

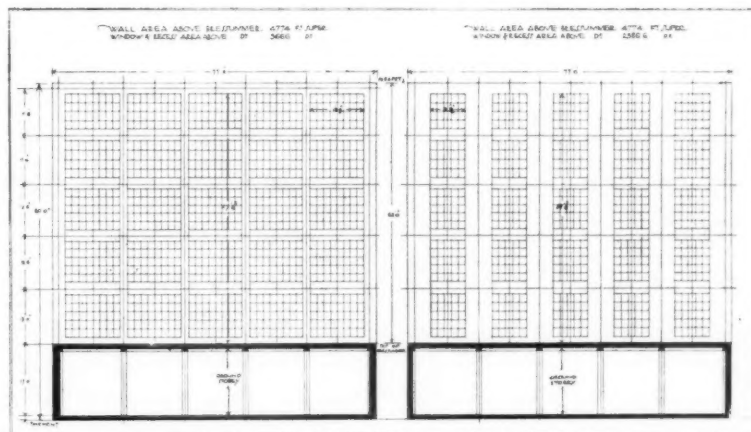
LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL

Not the least part of an architect's work in City, as in other London, buildings is the extended and difficult negotiations with the London County Council in most cases of waiver under the Building Act. As you know, in every case such as we are considering, plans have to be deposited with the Council for their approval of means of escape. By the courtesy of the Council officials, you may be enabled to make arrangements



This diagram indicates a staircase planned to give access, if necessary, to six separate suites of offices and to general lavatories. The traffic on staircases and lifts like these is likely to be heavy and indicates the vertical character of the corridors in a modern building. It will be noted that in the case of the two offices where the daylight at the entry is not of the first quality it is reserved for public rather than working space.

in advance that will ensure your plans being passed when the application is made. If, by careful study and knowledge of the Building Act, you



This diagram gives a comparison between "window-and-recess" restricted to 50 per cent. in accordance with the Building Act, and what might be permissible in steel framed buildings where there need be no regulation beyond resistance to wind pressure and possibly a requirement concerning glazing being of a fire-resisting character in narrow areas.

can by any means design your building so as to render any other application unnecessary, my advice to you is to do so, on the ground that waivers are expensive luxuries by reason of onerous conditions of consent, often costly to carry out.

BALANCE

It is necessary in plan to balance your floor space with your lighting areas and in section to balance your floor heights with the depths of your blocks and in elevation to conserve and distribute your daylight with as little shadow obstruction as possible. Generally speaking, the area of the lighting wells on the upper floors should not exceed about 40 per cent. of the site area. [See diagram on p. 606.]

OLDER TYPES OF OFFICE

In the days before lifts were common, office buildings usually consisted of lower ground storey with forecourts, ground storey and three or four floors over. These often had central corridors with branching corridors opening off in either hand, the rooms in these branch blocks being lighted from small areas. The suites consisted of two, three or more rooms ready made and with internal communication, each room having its own fireplace entailing chimney-stacks at close intervals throughout the building.

NEWER TYPES

Modern lifts, and low pressure hot-water heating systems render this type of building obsolete, the lifts enabling the buildings to be higher, and central heating eliminating the forest of chimney stacks, with an incidental effect on the atmosphere. The building can be planned on simpler, more sweeping, lines, the small areas giving place to fewer and larger ones that enable the light to penetrate deeper into the higher buildings. The omission of the chimney stacks allows of unobstructed floor spaces that can be readily divisible by means of light partitions.

STAIRCASES

This modern kind of plan, however, calls for greater ingenuity in the planning of the staircases, which should be devised so as to give access to as many potential suites of offices as possible and allow for the provision of connecting corridors in case the exigencies of letting call for them. Whole floors may be let to one tenant who may have his own architect to scheme the offices on that floor with such internal communication as best suits the tenant's need. But other floors may have to be divided up by the landlord in unforeseen ways, so that it is best to try to visualise as many of these arrangements beforehand

and scheme your staircases and landings accordingly. The general lavatories must also be considered in relation to the staircases as, except in special cases, this is a service provided by the landlord and should be available to all parts of the house. It will be seen from this that there is a tendency to eliminate horizontal public corridors and to make the staircase with its lifts a corridor connecting up the offices in a vertical direction. The horizontal corridors, if required at all, become letting space for which rent is obtainable whenever the tenancy is large enough to require a whole floor or so much of it as is not accessible from another staircase.

It must not be overlooked that the staircases and lifts are the highest parts of the building and should be so placed as not to interfere with neighbouring lights. If there are dull or dark spots on the plan, without high quality of daylight, these spots should be occupied by the staircases, which can be artificially lit. After this, if there must be dull spots it is as well to try and contrive that these shall come in places of access or public spaces within offices adjacent to counters. It is advisable to conserve good daylight for working spaces. [See the upper diagram on p. 607.]

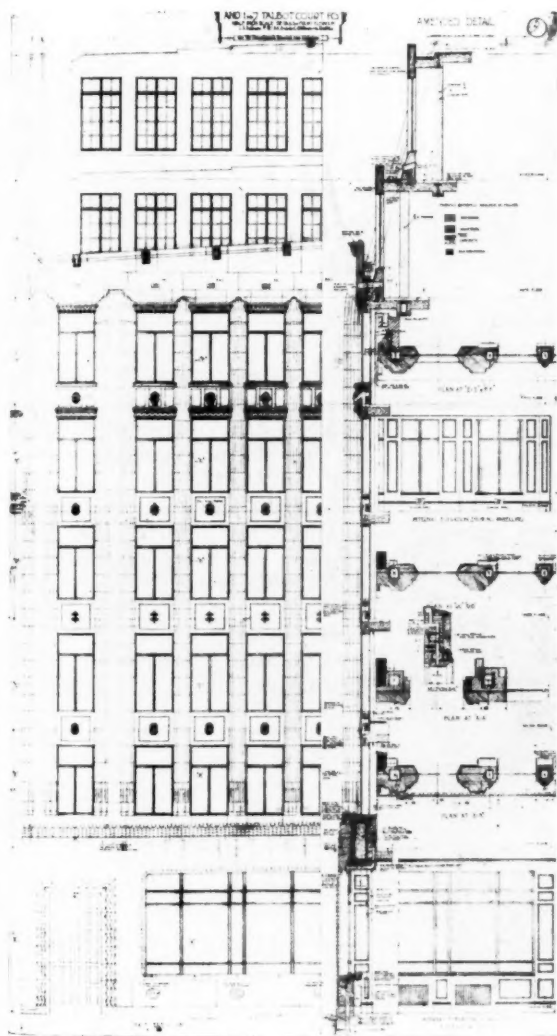
LAVATORIES

In dealing with the question of lavatories in a building for a client's own occupation, his requirements can be got by obtaining a schedule of his staff and working out the accommodation from that, and by allowing, on the client's information, for possible increase of staff in the two sexes.

When dealing with a building to be let off in separate tenancies the problem is not so easy. In these cases one takes out the whole floor area available for letting except space (usually in the basements) to be let as strong rooms and for archive purposes where staff in any number is not usually employed, allowing one person for each 60 feet super of area. This gives in a building of say 30,000 feet of letting space the number of occupants as 500. About one-third of these are likely to be women, but it is impossible to fix any proportion between the sexes accurately as the variation between firms is enormous. Having got the figures then of, say, 334 men and 166 women, one can use the scale set out by the Board of Education in its *Building Regulations for Secondary Schools*.* This gives 4 per cent. of w.c.'s for males and 1 in 15 for the first hundred females and 5 per cent. above that number. In the case set out above, therefore, 14 w.c.'s would be required for men and 10 for women, or roughly in those proportions. In first-

* H.M. Stationery Office, 1920. 2½d.

class offices I should be inclined to increase these numbers somewhat, and in all cases it will be necessary to provide one or two lavatories for principals in convenient places, two or three w.c.'s in each. Urinals should also be provided, but in this case the Board of Education scale is hardly suitable for office use. For each separate group of six or seven w.c.'s, I try to get three urinals, and think this is ample.



NOS. 1 TO 7 TALBOT COURT, E.C.
Working drawing elevation and section
L. S. Sullivan [F.], Architect

For lavatory basins the Board's scale is 5 per cent. up to 100 and 4 per cent. above that number for males, with 10 per cent. up to 100 and 5 per cent. above that number for females. This scale is rather high for office use and can well be reduced.

In each lavatory apartment I usually put a Birkenfeldt filter at the end of the range of lavatory basins, and a small sink for cleaning inkpots and for filling cleaners' buckets. If this sink is not provided, it will be found that the clerks use the lavatory basins for cleaning ink wells, which is unpleasant for subsequent users and stains the basins. No cleaners' cupboards should be allowed in the lavatory chambers, but should be concentrated in an apartment in the basement adjoining a cleaner's cloak room and lavatory. This apartment should have broom and pail racks.

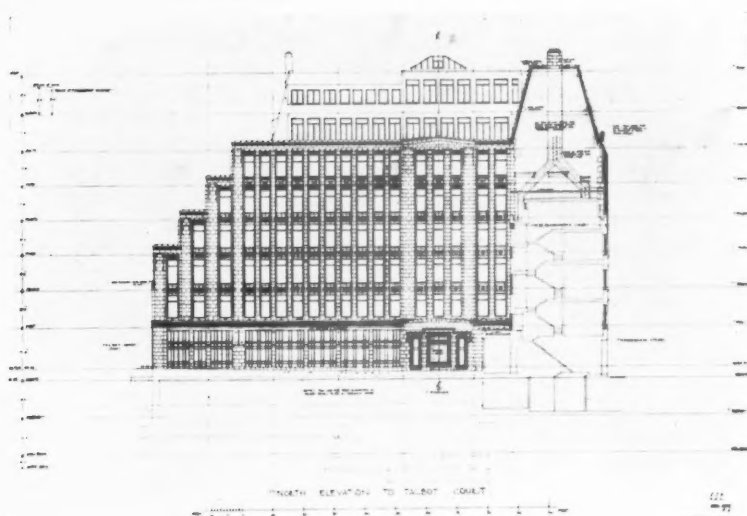
A separate lavatory with one or two w.c.'s, according to requirements, with a sink, should be provided adjacent to the boiler-house and mechanics' mess-room.

Where there is a resident housekeeper, of course, a separate w.c. and a bathroom is required in his quarters.

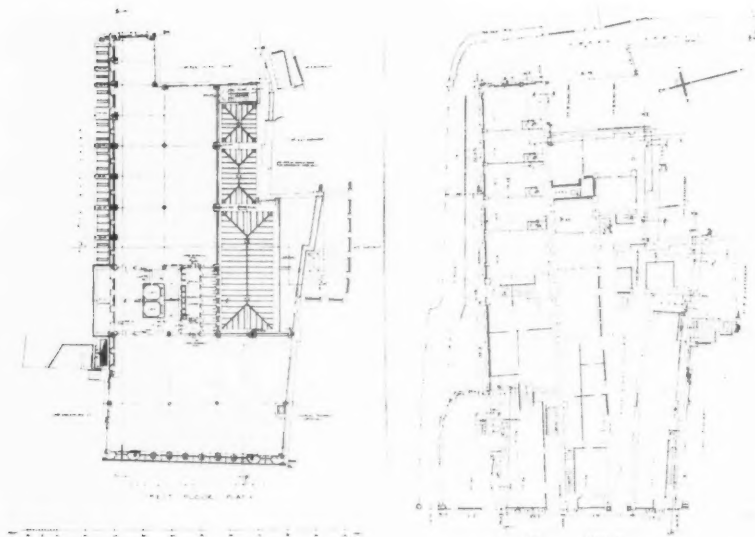
Occasionally bath and changing rooms are provided in connection with the principals' or general lavatories, from which a small additional income can be obtained, but usually I have found they are not desired and unless specially asked for are likely to be wasted. They might, however, be combined with a barber's shop in some cheaper part of the building, especially in those cases where the number of occupants is likely to be such as to support a shop of the sort without the necessity of bringing in outsiders from the pavements, which might not always be desirable.

It is advisable in large buildings to provide a rest room, containing a sofa, in connection with the female lavatory for use in case of illness. Mirrors with brush shelves under should be provided in all lavatories, and consideration be given to the position of towel rollers and dressing hooks.

In some office buildings it has been usual to concentrate the lavatories in the basements, and on the top storeys, but this puts a great deal of work on the lifts, which in a busy house are already fully used for ordinary traffic. It seems more economical to place the lavatories off the main staircases distributed throughout the building. A lavatory can be allotted to principals on the first and seventh floors, with a lavatory for women on the third or fourth floor, the male lavatories being placed intermediately. In a recent building the lavatories are placed in the base-



NOS. 51-54 GRACECHURCH STREET AND NO. 1 TALBOT COURT, E.C.
Elevation to Talbot Court showing the setting back for Ancient Lights



OFFICE BUILDING: 51-54 GRACECHURCH STREET, E.C.
On the left the plan of the new building and on the right plan showing the disposition of the buildings superseded

L. S. Sullivan, Architect

ment, first, third, fifth and seventh floors (the intervening floors being officespace) all opening off the staircase. In this case the principals' lavatories are on the first and seventh floors entered through the clerks' lavatories. The women are accommodated on the third floor, there being another men's lavatory on the fifth floor. Separate lavatories for men, women and principals for ground floor service are placed in the basement. This distribution has undoubtedly taken a good deal of traffic away from the lifts, as the lavatories are usually within a flight or so of the users, who prefer to run up or downstairs rather than call the lifts.

WATER SUPPLY

As regards water supply, the delivery in London is constant, so that, where taken from the Water Board, large storage is not required. The consumption used to be estimated at 30 gallons per head per day but I believe nowadays more is used.

Where the property is of a size to justify it, it is economical to sink wells, the saving in water rate being such as will repay the capital outlay in a few years. This entails a large settling tank and pumping to a storage and master tank in the roof. In a recent case this latter has been spread over the house-keeper's quarters within the roof in order to avoid an application to the L.C.C. for excess of height. Well water means copper piping and cylinders in all domestic hot-water services—owing to the softness of the water in the City. Copper piping is not usually necessary for the heating system, as the same water is continuously used except for a few gallons replacing wastage, and consequently the water has no continuous action. It is advisable, however, not to place orders for tankage and plant

until the well bores indicate that an adequate supply of water is assured.

The supply to the storage tank is automatic, for when a float in the tank falls to a certain level a switch is operated that brings the pumps into action, the current being switched off again by the rise of the water at a higher level.

In large schemes the question of water-hardening comes up for consideration. In several of the newer buildings plants for this purpose have been installed.

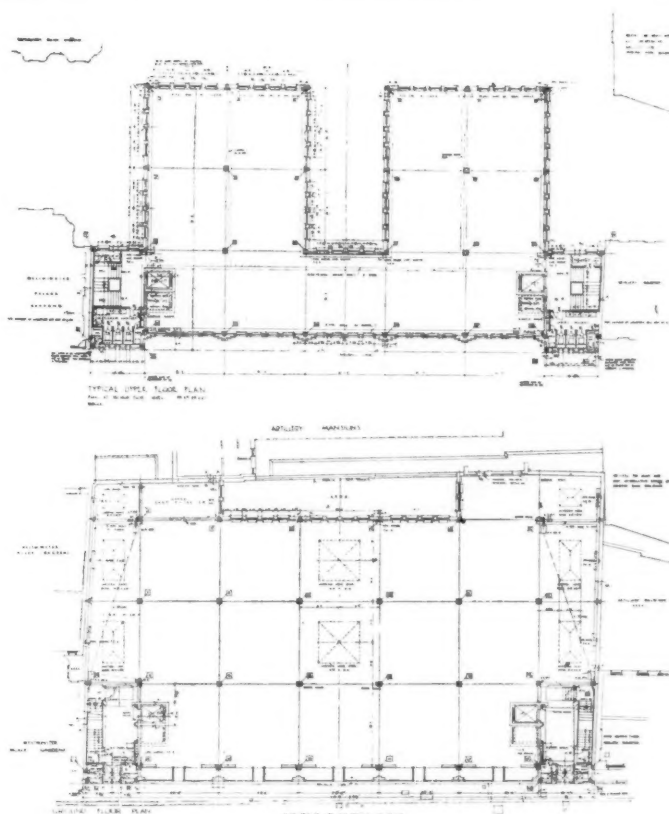
In most cases it is desirable to duplicate the wells and pumps, and to divide the tanks so that switches from one engine to another may be made during repairs and cleaning can be indulged in periodically.

It is advisable to emphasize the importance of employing copper pipes and cylinders in the situations already mentioned, as heavy cast malleable iron junctions in the domestic hot-water service have been known to be eaten through in three years by the action of the well water. Even then the proposition is usually so economical that replacements of this kind can be faced with equanimity, being amply and generously covered by the saving. Clients should be made aware of this kind of contingency from the first.

The selection of water-waste-preventers also requires care where well water is used, both as regards the action of the water on the metal parts and the occasional wear on working parts due to infiltration of sandy particles.

TEA KITCHEN AND GAS SUPPLY

A supply of gas should be brought into the house and carried to the housekeeper's quarters for his cooker; the main should have tee-junctions in convenient places at all floor levels for supply through meters to tenants' offices. In large buildings it is sometimes necessary to provide a kitchen with gas apparatus, sinks and washing apparatus, tea-trolley space, and stores for the supply of tea throughout the building. Generally this kitchen is run by the client when the whole building is occupied by him, in other cases tenants combine, but most often the housekeeper runs this service. It is nearly always required in large buildings, as tenants object to tea intervals and to finding their staffs filling the streets and the neighbouring tea shops at unauthorised hours. With



ARTILLERY HOUSE, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1
Plan of ground and typical upper floors.

Sir Aston Webb & Son and Harvey A. Dawson, Architects

tea delivered by trolley to each desk little time is wasted. Of course, in a few cases the firm may require a kitchen on larger lines and serve luncheons to the staff. Here consideration must be given to the provision of larders, refrigerators, special service lifts and refuse, together with dining rooms, linen stores, dish-washing and other machines and dispersal of cooking fumes.

The gas company will usually pay for half the cost of the mains through the building, as it is to their interest that tenants should have this facility.

A gas service should also be carried to the mess room.

ELECTRIC SUPPLY

Electric supply requires balancing in all large buildings and is carried up at convenient points with

distribution boards at the various levels from which the tenants can take their supplies by meter. It is usual to provide a small meter and switch room in the basement at the point of intake and it is essential to provide sufficient copper on both the lighting and power mains to meet all contingencies, especially where the building is for letting and requirements unknown. Tenants frequently require a number of small motors for running various machines, as well as occasional heating radiators.

Nowadays the supply companies prefer to bring their supplies into the building in bulk at high voltages. In this case, a small compartment eight or ten feet square is required for the transformer, which should be easily accessible on occasion.

The installation of the building-owner-occupiers' own electric plant is rather a special question and is not gone into particularly here. It is only worth while in very large propositions, as a stand-by in case of strike or breakdown. These installations have their own problems of gas disposal and so on that require consideration. All this, however, is such a special problem that I do not propose to do more than refer to it.

Apart from the mains already referred to, it is not advisable to wire for tenants' lighting in advance. Tenants should carry out their own wiring from the nearest distribution board and remove it again at the end of their tenancy, making good as a dilapidation. It is seldom, if ever, that the outgoing tenant's requirements will suit an incoming one.

The landlord will provide all public lighting to stairs, public corridors, general lavatories and services, but not as a rule in strong rooms, private corridors or private lavatories, and he will provide throughout the building sufficient power plugs with locked switch boxes for an efficient electrical cleaning plant. Though others may not agree, I find that the electric sweeper and its adjuncts are better than the large vacuum cleaning plant, if only for the reason that the small cables do not damage expensive board room and other furniture to anything like the same degree as the heavy and sometimes armoured tubes of the vacuum installations. Moreover, the sweepers are lighter and are more easily handled by the cleaners and there is no special space required for machinery, bins and so on, a reasonably sized cupboard being sufficient for the storage of the sweepers under the control of the housekeeper, dust being carried to the boiler house for disposal with the ashes.

The w.c. apartments should have automatic switches operated by the closing of the doors. All switches in the public parts of the house and on the

sweeper circuits should be operated by keys only available to the housekeeper and his attendants.

HEATING

Hot-water heating should be so devised that it can be readily adapted to suit the needs of changing tenants. Especially so, as while it may be easy to provide sufficient heat for large or open floor spaces, as soon as these spaces are divided up balance is lost, revision being called for to get equal distribution or even increased heat.

An excellent way is to run the pipes vertically up and down through the building on the window piers from which branches are taken off under each window—so that actually there are a series of vertical stacks of radiators. This method has an advantage in that it is possible to take out a radiator without disturbing the heat of a whole floor to the discomfort of everybody on that floor. At the worst, a little heat is taken away from each floor during the period of alteration.

An ample and wise distribution of stop-cocks is a most valuable contribution to convenience in after care of the building, so that where it is necessary to cut out any circuit for any reason the circuit cut out is small. We know that stop-cocks cost something, but a far-seeing building owner will prefer a wise plenitude of them on all heating and sanitary circuits.

In high buildings small circulation pipes with an electric accelerator pump in the boiler room are practically essential. In all large plants it is advisable to duplicate or triplicate the boilers as a stand-by in case of breakdown for use in rotation and for cleaning.

It is an advisable precaution to carry hot-water coils round all lavatory apartments to prevent freezing—this can be done a foot or so down from the ceiling away from the walls so as not to interfere with the plumbing and other services. Coils round all skylights are also desirable.

An ash-hoist should be devised from somewhere near the boiler house, and ready access, or shoots, for the delivery of the fuel should not be overlooked.

Consideration should be given in these respects to the position of the boiler house and in relation to the boiler chimney, which should be in such a position that it can be carried up through the highest part of the building before it discharges. A boiler flue discharging below the level of the highest part of the building may render certain offices untenable.

Oil firing has certain advantages, is cleanly, and eliminates a good deal of attendance and stoking. Some owners, however, hesitate about its employment, partly on the score of fluctuations in the price

of the fuel and uncertainty about its taxation. Coke fuel is a home product, is known, has had a very long usage, and for lack of special reasons to the contrary it appears to many to justify its continued use.

HOUSEKEEPING

The housekeeper should have an office in or adjacent to the main entrance for interviews with prospective tenants and for general supervision purposes. It is generally necessary for him or his attendants to cut off hawkers and other undesirables as they enter—the nearer the front door the better. This office should be provided with table space for the display of plans, and racks for the sorting of letters and for keys. It should also have a box for the posting of tenants' keys as they leave at night.

A fairly recent innovation to many people is the installation of letter shutles from all floors to pillar boxes in the basement where the postmen come to make collections, the keys of these boxes being in the control of the Post Office. This, however, is an amenity older than many people imagine, nor is it such a recent importation from America, as I know an office building in the City where this service was put into the building when it was constructed in 1878—R. B. Marsh being the architect.

The housekeeper should be given ample storage accommodation fitted with shelves and racks, for soap, towels, electric bulbs, brooms, buckets, electric sweepers, and spares of all sorts. The cleaners should also be given lock-up cupboards for stores issued to them and should have separate accommodation with sinks and broom and pail racks adjacent to their cloak room.

A mess room for lift attendants, mechanics and stokers should be provided in the neighbourhood of the boiler house.

Coal fires in new office buildings are nowadays seldom required, so the question of coal storage may not arise, but where they do occur space for coal must be found and must be arranged for easy delivery from the street to the cellar and from the cellar to the offices or board rooms.

The housekeeper's living quarters can be situated anywhere convenient, generally on the top floor and should consist of sitting room and three bedrooms, kitchen with sink and gas cooker, larder, bathroom and w.c., and some cupboard accommodation. Gas fires should be put in the sitting and bedrooms, as it is not economic to have the general heating system in operation on occasions when it is not necessarily required elsewhere.

There should be ready access from the quarters to the fire escape.

If there is no other tea kitchen in the house, the kitchen should be large enough for storage of crockery and its washing up, and there should be some adjacent space available for a tea trolley. This accommodation is better separated from the housekeeper's living quarters.

It may be well, while thinking of housekeeping, to remember that cleaning is a heavy item of cost and that everything should be eliminated that requires special cleaning and polishing. Flooring should be non-slippery and easily washable, for the entrance halls and lower flights of stairs will require frequent attention from mops on muddy and wet days. Nearly all cleaning has to be done out of office hours, so that during a large part of the year it is done by artificial light. It is important, therefore, to remember this in arranging the lighting so that every part can be seen for this purpose and readily supervised.

Every means of cleanliness should be considered, but best of all is to avoid decorations, treatment and materials that require apparatus or frequent use of ladders.

The services of a modern building comprise dynamos, boilers, pumps, engines and mechanical devices of many kinds, so it is advisable to obtain a housekeeper accustomed to machinery and able to do or to supervise temporary repairs. Ex-naval ratings familiar with machinery make excellent housekeepers and they are no strangers to cleanliness and smartness in themselves, their subordinates or their engine-rooms. The housekeeper may have under him, besides a dozen liftmen, stokers and reliefs, 40 or 50 cleaners, and in addition be responsible not only for their supervision and work, but for the safe custody of the offices and their contents during all hours that they are not occupied by the tenants.

MAINTENANCE

Upkeep should never be lost sight of in designing and specifying everything in the building. Such little items as differences in the slipperiness of marbles and nosings, quietness of apparatus in working, elimination of hum or hammering in pipes when pumping or drawing off water, wear on taps and water wastage, markings on walls due to hot-water pipes and radiators, all have an importance needing careful forethought. The elimination of cast-iron gutterings and woodwork needing painting and upkeep have a bearing on the maintenance costs. Roofs and dormers can be completely covered with asphalt, gutterings can with a little contrivance be formed of con-

crete at the bottom of the roof slopes, the asphalt being carried over them. By this means slating repairs and all leadwork in gutters, soakers and flashings and decay of cast iron work can be entirely avoided. Repainting costs can be kept down by forethought and, by the provision of brackets, a large part of the costs of floats and scaffolds for redecoration purposes can be saved. In course of time, perhaps, it will be possible for such things as steel casements to be obtainable at marketable prices in rustless material, in which case external painting might become a thing of the past with its accompanying floats and scaffolds.

GENERAL NOTES

Tenants' name boards should be placed inside the entrances as near the front door as possible. These should be arranged for easy change and should be uniform and orderly. In any case, some rules are necessary to keep the house tidy and prevent an unsightly superfluity of signs. This question of the tenants' names should not be overlooked when designing the entrance doors to offices, as each tenant will require the name of his firm to be displayed so that the office can be readily found when the floor is reached.

DEEP BASEMENTS

London, as has been said, has been growing downward, partly, no doubt, because of the restriction on height above ground. On the whole, deep excavations are not a profitable proposition, as they are the most expensive part of a building and are likely to

show the least return from a rental point of view. By all means reconstruct ordinary basements, as they are useful for services, but deep basements require special ventilation and possibly loss of space on more valuable floors for lighting areas. Besides this, there are the complications and risks attaching to the upholding of neighbouring buildings during the period of excavation. Their creation is best left to the safe deposit companies and the banks that have special uses for them: for the ordinary property owner they are an unprofitable outlay.

PLEA FOR THE CONTRACTOR

There is one little thing that perhaps I may be allowed to refer to—though it applies to all types of building besides offices. It is the question of the architect's responsibility for the prompt issue of information to the contractors. The contractor is entitled to expect on the day he signs the contract not only copies of the full specification and the eighth scale drawings, but half inches and full sizes of the masonry, half inches and full sizes of much of the joinery, copies of all sub-contractors' accepted tenders, and plans of piping and party wall awards, besides all information that may be available to enable him to lay his plans for completion from the first and to give him time to purchase in the best markets. This may sound Utopian to many, but it is by no means impossible, and enables the job to run sweetly for everybody from the client downwards, especially so if the architect can impress on the client the delays that may accrue by change of mind after the contract is in hand.

Vote of Thanks and Discussion

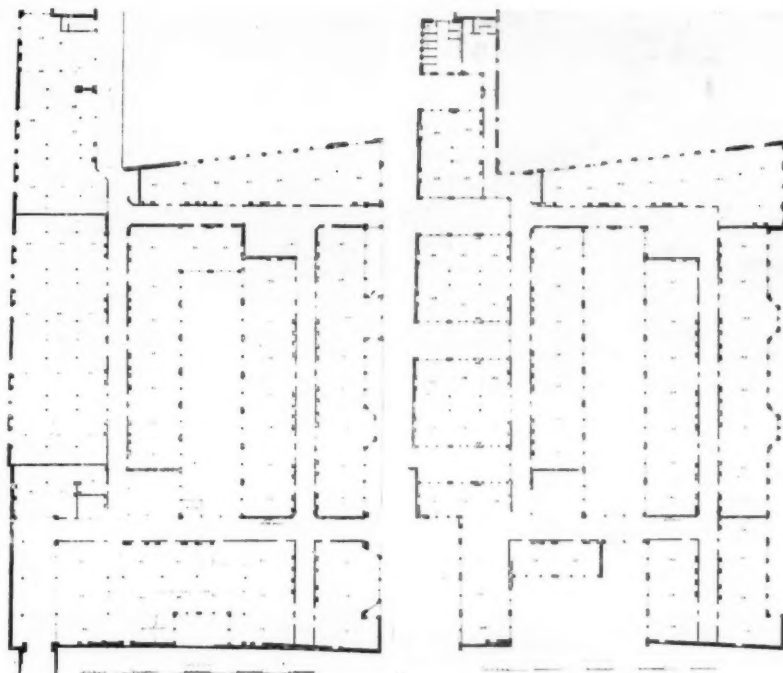
Lieut.-Colonel W. G. JOHNS, D.S.O. [Joint General Manager of Lloyds Bank, Limited]: Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen,—May I, first, thank the members of this Royal Institute for their hospitality to-night, and for giving me the opportunity of listening to this very interesting paper?

Mr. Sullivan led off with some lines deploring the fact that primroses no longer grew on Tower Hill, and that Love Lane was a misnomer. May I remind you of a still more modern maker of verses, doggerel verses, who wrote:

"Though motors meet where flowers sweet
Once grew by Lombard's rill,
The loving pair still idle there
By ledger, cash and till.

If love in idleness no longer grows
Gaily on Cornhill
You'll find that it can flourish still
In banks with Jack and Jill."

Many of us, at any rate, have known what it was to work in offices which were survivals of Georgian days—flat-fronted buildings, begrimed with smoke and soot, low-ceilinged rooms lit by small panes and with the aid of gas jets. We have known the stuccoed abominations, and the eminently respectable granite-faced buildings of Victorian days. And now I spend the greater part of my waking hours in one of the big City offices such as Mr. Sullivan has described to us to-night. And two years' residence in such a building is my one and only excuse



A CITY OFFICE BUILDING, ERECTED IN 1878
R. B. Marsh, Architect

for commenting, in any shape or form, on Mr. Sullivan's paper.

I agree with him that even directors prefer a good light to 5 or 6 feet diameter columns, and that the best builder is the man who makes the best use of daylight. It is rather surprising to a layman to know that an architect has to devote 40 per cent. of the site area to light-wells. I suppose in many cases to-day it is possible to arrange with an adjoining owner to share light-wells.

Our experience in Lloyds Bank is that ceiling panelled heating is infinitely preferable to radiators; the heating is more equitable; it is possible to divide up your floor space without reference to the position of radiators, and there is no discoloration of walls, and no stuffiness such as so often comes from over-heated radiators. Again, oil heating, we have found, is infinitely the cheapest, partly—indeed largely—because the wages of one or two attendants are saved by using oil.

Mr. Sullivan's suggestion of the use of brackets to obviate floats or scaffolding when the glazed brickwork in the light-wells has to be cleaned is new to me, and it has not been used on certainly one new building. But the idea seems to be excellent, and when—as we are already pressed for space in Lombard Street—my directors think of re-building, I shall refer them to Mr. Sullivan's paper.

May I now, sir, propose that a very hearty vote of thanks be given to Mr. Sullivan for his most interesting paper?

Mr. ROBERT HOWDEN [F.]: Mr. President, Mr. Sullivan, ladies and gentlemen,—I have very much pleasure in rising to second the vote of thanks which has been so ably proposed by Lieut.-Colonel Johns to Mr. Sullivan for his interesting lecture. It is to lectures such as we have heard to-night that those of us who are outside the City and those who live in distant lands look for a lead in the direction that civic and city building should take.

As regards South Africa, we need no lead in connection with our domestic architecture. Owing to the excellent work done by our esteemed friend Sir Herbert Baker, we have established a deep-rooted domestic architecture in South Africa with which we are all well satisfied. Sir Herbert, carrying on from the early Dutch Cape architecture, evolved a type with sufficient English feeling to meet all the requirements which were needed in South Africa for domestic work, which most of us are only too pleased to follow. But this does not apply to our civic and city buildings throughout the different Colonies. We have no tradition and no climate to make an essential difference to buildings of that description, and conse-

quently we look to London for a lead. I can assure Mr. Sullivan that his lecture will be read with great interest by all architects in the different Dominions of Great Britain.

There are too many points in the paper to permit of our discussing them to-night, but I would like to mention one in particular. He mentioned in two or three places a number of points concerning adjoining owners. The rights of adjoining owners in this country seem to us, coming from distant Colonies, as somewhat incongruous. It reminds me of Mr. Winston Churchill's remark that British politicians thrive on anomalies. In the Colonies we have no such things as rights, no neighbour rights, no rights of light, rights of way or of air. And it has occurred to us whether it would not be possible for Parliament to pass an Act of Expropriation whereby, by means of compensation, all these "rights" could be eliminated, and so leave the building owner free and unencumbered.

I have much pleasure in seconding the vote of thanks.

The President then opened the meeting to discussion and invited Mr. Austen Hall to speak.

MR. AUSTEN HALL [F.]: In response to your invitation, sir, I have much pleasure in supporting the vote of thanks, for one of the most interesting papers, one of the most solid and valuable papers, we have had in this room. I had the great privilege of being taught to draw by Mr. Sullivan's father, at the Hastings School of Art, and I remember the pride with which he told me that his son had entered the office of Mr. Alfred Waterhouse. Mr. Waterhouse was one of the finest planners we have ever had in this country, and I think we see in Mr. Sullivan's admirable work the evidence of that early training, in which he has equalled, and in many new ways exceeded, the achievements of his master. Mr. Sullivan himself is typical of his work: he is comfortable, he is sensible, he is sound, and I have always thought he and his work remarkably like each other: it does happen in that way sometimes.

Something has been said tonight about the rights of light, and I know it is a subject with which we have all been afflicted for many years. Mr. Sullivan speaks strongly about it, and anyone who has built in the City must think strongly of it; and I do not know why, when the rest of the world is free from this intolerable encumbrance—which is still, as he said, a form of blackmail—we alone in the whole world still have, before we can put anything up, to satisfy a hundred hungry mouths of those who consider they may be injured in some way by what we are going to do, even before we have done it. The singular thing is that we are the only people in the world who labour under that condition of affairs. But we are good-natured people, and I see no prospect of our friend from South Africa having his suggestion carried out, though I fully sympathise with his idea.

The paper has been, to me, of extraordinary interest, and I am sure we shall all cherish the written words which we shall get in our journals, I think, in fact, it will form a Bible to those who have to erect such useful buildings under such difficult conditions as those that rule in the crowded parts of the City. I have great pleasure in supporting what has been said.

THE PRESIDENT: I should like to ask General Sir Louis Vaughan to say a few words. We are all greatly indebted to Sir Louis for lending us rooms in Thames House for the exhibition of the drawings in the competition for our new Home,

LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR LOUIS VAUGHAN, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O. (managing director of Thames House Estate): Mr. President, Mr. Sullivan, ladies and gentlemen, I did not expect to be called upon to speak to you to-night, but after the very kind way in which your president has referred to us, I would like to say not only what a pleasure it was to see so many most excellent drawings assembled in Thames House, but also to take the opportunity of telling Mr. Sullivan how much I have enjoyed listening to him. I know nothing about architecture, but I live in one of the buildings such as have been described, and I agree with all that he has said. I also agree with what Colonel Johns said, except on one point—I am not at all certain about oil fuel. Thank you very much.

MR. A. E. L. SLAZENGER: May I, also, rise and thank Mr. Sullivan for the paper which he has read to-night? I am considerably interested in City properties, and it has been most interesting to me to see the illustrations that he has given us this evening.

There is one point that I thought he might have raised on the question of heating. In the buildings in which I have recently been interested we have decided to heat by direct electric current—I do not know what is the technical term: without water or any outside assistance, just the supply of electricity direct. It does away with the waste of space due to having chimneys and fireplaces; moreover, the regulation of the temperature can be done so accurately that it can be guaranteed to a degree. Also it is far more economical than any other system that you can put in. I thought that very likely he would refer to that.

With regard to Mr. Robert Howden's expression of opinion on the subject of ancient lights, we are all troubled with this question, but, after all, there is a certain amount of equity attaching to it, and many of the controversies which have come to my knowledge have been satisfactorily and equitably settled without any friction at all. A man has a certain right in lights, and if another builder were to erect a building which obstructed the light, surely he would be entitled to some compensation, and his rights must be protected.

This is my first visit to this Institute, and I must say I have been most interested and very agreeably entertained. I thank you.

MR. A. FOSTER [F.]: I have not very much to say, sir, but I have been very much interested in all that Mr. Sullivan has told us. We, of the Banks, are naturally interested in the matter which he has discussed.

There is, however, one point which strikes me especially about all office buildings: It is a great pity it is not more possible to town-plan. It is so unsatisfactory to find on one site an admirable office, and immediately adjoining a building which is totally different in character, and which often is very inferior. If the City Corporation and the other municipal bodies could control elevations in some form, it would be to the great advantage of all the parties concerned.

MR. HOWARD ROBERTSON [F.]: Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, I have nothing to contribute on the question of office building, except to throw, if I may be allowed, another bouquet at Mr. Sullivan.

Mr. Austen Hall has said what a pleasant, comfortable, sound man Mr. Sullivan is, but he did not add—which I think he would have done if he had thought of it—what an excellent designer Mr. Sullivan is. He has, I think, in the office buildings he has designed and erected, made a definite contribution to the design of structures of that class. On the screen he showed us one or two of his buildings without—which is what

one would expect of him—mentioning whom they were by; but if you look on the walls of this room you will see that he is not only a practical man, but also that he is an artist. To design an office building so that it shall be interesting is an extremely difficult feat, as we easily realise if we make a tour of the City of London.

I thank you very much for allowing me to make this small contribution.

Mr. HAROLD FARCUS: Mr. President, a thing which has come very much before us in the discussion tonight is the question of oil fuel. A friend of mine recently returned from Vancouver told me that when they walked through the town they got dirty from the smuts in the air settling on their faces, these they could not wipe off in the ordinary way, for if they rubbed them they made an oily mark; I wondered "Shall we have that in London?" One part of London which I know well has several enormous oil-heated buildings. Under certain atmospheric conditions the products of combustion blow down and there is an uncomfortable smell which pervades the street and the rooms. Then when the wind changes it goes. Shall we have that in London if oil fuel comes in to any extent? Oil, of course, is simpler than anything else, and I ask if there is any way of avoiding this inconvenience.

General Sir LOUIS VAUGHAN stated that he objected to the use of oil for the same reason. Cost, he said, varied, but in his experience the relative costs of coke and oil were very close.

The PRESIDENT also stated that he had noticed the same unpleasant smell and dirt from the oil fuel on Atlantic liners.

Mr. A. FOSTER, rising a second time, stated that to get good results from an oil plant it was absolutely necessary to have experienced labour; oil fuel installations did not run themselves. Electricity, he thought, would soon supersede all other forms of heating.

Mr. ARTHUR J. DAVIS [F.]: The only excuse I can give, sir, for joining in the discussion is, that I was born in the same year as Mr. Sullivan, and so, of course, it was a very good vintage year.

I know nothing about architecture, but I know what I like. I like Mr. Sullivan and his buildings, and I liked his lecture very much, and I think he has covered the ground very completely.

But there is one little point that he has omitted—namely, any mention of ventilation in buildings, and also the question of noise in the City. In certain of our main City thoroughfares there is a great deal of noise, especially in rooms overlooking the main streets. In one building on which I was engaged the question arose as how to deal with this noise on the floors above the ground floor, which were to be used as board-rooms and offices. The method which was proposed, and was adopted, was to install double windows, which were never to be opened, except for cleaning, and to ventilate the building artificially. Mr. Sullivan mentioned the importance of light, and almost every other speaker referred to it. However, I would like to remind you that for seven months in the year you do not get much daylight in your City buildings, but you do get fog, smoke and dirt. Double windows, I admit, are a rather expensive method of overcoming noise, but with these and the addition of artificial ventilation, it was possible to produce a sound-resisting board-room and committee rooms, and a suite of offices in which the air is fairly pure, even on the foggiest day.

I wish to add my thanks to Mr. Sullivan for his very interesting and useful paper, and also to those who have responded so ably to it.

Professor G. E. PEARSE [A.], Professor, University of Witwatersrand, and President of the Natal Provincial Institute of the Institute of S.A. Architects: I cannot say that I have had experience of American planning, but I was very interested recently to hear one or two lectures on planning in America and in particular of the new Radio City which is being built. There it seems that, provided architects do not build towers on more than a quarter of the site, they can do almost what they like. They are limited to this defined area within which they can go to any height. After hearing Mr. Sullivan and seeing the plans which are on the walls this evening, I feel it would be good if some American architects were given sites such as you in London have to build upon. In America they are fortunate—or unfortunate—as are we in the Dominions, in having rectangular sites that allow fairly straightforward plans; but in England you seem to be beset with all sorts of difficulties. I have had little experience of building in this country, but I remember when cinemas first came in that I was working with an architect who had to build a cinema near Euston Station, and I was amazed at the problems presented; not only had ancient lights to be considered, but even the question of the orchestra disturbing landladies in adjoining boarding houses! I have not heard of problems like those arising in America or in the British Dominions. But what puzzles me, after what I have seen in architectural schools here, is that a little more attention is not given to these problematical sites, such as you have to deal with in London. An architect who can achieve a successful solution and give a good plan on a site such as those Mr. Sullivan has depicted is by way of being a genius in planning. One of the plans Mr. Sullivan showed us struck me rather forcibly; in it a staircase was placed around the lifts, and there did not appear to be any light on the staircase. That is an interesting problem, and one which I think American architects have fairly well solved. They go in for artificial lighting and ventilation to a greater extent than, I think, is done in London.

There have been so many questions brought up to-night in the paper and in the subsequent speeches, that the occasion is bristling with points worth discussion. I hoped the lecturer would have dwelt more on the placing of lifts and staircases on these complicated sites, but we may hear more of that in the future.

I wish to say, in conclusion, how much I appreciate being here this evening; it is the first time I have had the opportunity of attending a meeting at the Royal Institute, and I have very much enjoyed it.

The PRESIDENT then put the vote of thanks to the meeting and it was carried by acclamation.

Mr. SULLIVAN (in reply): I shall not detain you more than a moment or two.

I do appreciate very much the vote of thanks which you have passed for my effort to describe to you, within my limited knowledge, city office building.

Mr. Foster spoke about town planning. There is a thing which might help us with regard to that. That is, where you have got, as sometimes happens in the City, a number of adjacent building owners developing at the same moment—there is an example of it in Lombard Street and Cornhill, where you have Lloyds Bank, the Commercial Union, Martins Bank, and Glyn Mills Currie and Co. all joining and touching each other on a very large site cut through and riddled with small alleys, some of them redundant—that is a case where the building owners perhaps missed an opportunity. Those building

owners, by negotiation with the City Corporation, might have got some of those redundant alleys suppressed, at any rate they might have got some of them rectified. By that means there might have been created a little bit of town planning, in the heart of the City, for the benefit of everybody, and not least of themselves.

As for noise in modern steel frame buildings, the best way to deal with it is to eliminate all hard partitions and hard plasters,

and where the case is very bad you can have double windows and Bagenal.

As to the light in the City being of so bad a quality for seven months of the year, that is an additional reason for valuing and making the best of what there is. The less we have of a thing, the more likely we are to value it.

I think all the points have been dealt with ; and nothing remains for me to do except to thank you again very much.



51-54 GRACECHURCH STREET, E.C.
L. S. Sullivan [F.], Architect

The Building Industry Council of Review

AN ACCOUNT OF THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL

BY ALFRED C. BOSSOM, M.P., F.R.I.B.A.

It was obvious a few years ago that the building industry was not commanding public support as widely as it should, so an informal meeting was called on 10 January 1929 by the present writer in association with Lord Amulree, Sir Walker Smith and Captain B. S. Townroe to consider the desirability of instituting an enquiry to ascertain how far it might be possible, by concerted effort, to improve the position of the building industry and the trades associated with it by increasing efficiency and reducing costs.

The meeting was fully representative of all interests, and by general agreement it was decided to make a comprehensive investigation, and that a Building Industry Council of Review should be appointed. This decision was endorsed by the national bodies whose co-operation was essential, and they each nominated their own official representatives. At the preliminary meeting it was decided to undertake a comprehensive review of the economic position and technique of the building industry and its associated interests. A great many meetings have been held; testimony has been taken and two interim reports have been published.

The first report included consideration of the effect of the restrictions of existing building regulations on efficiency and cost; the possibilities of achieving economies by better organisation; the place of the operatives in the industry; the relationships between all parties concerned, and the general organisation of the industry from the point of view of desirability; and also the promotion of closer co-operation and the standardisation and simplification of materials.

Certain conclusions were arrived at. It was decided first, that revision of building laws and regulations and methods were desirable, and that recent improvements in building methods had not been extended throughout the industry. The very limited experience of the Time and Progress Schedule called for further investigation, and it was also agreed that the industry did not gain the full benefit of the wide technical knowledge and experience possessed by its informed members, and that the growing practice of employing specialists had so affected organisation and construction cost as to call for careful investigation.

It also became clear that there was need for closer contact between the various branches of the industry and its associated trades, and that the instability of employment, affecting both the training and recruitment, needed definite attention. Definite recommendations were made embodying these ideas and the reasons for the recommendations were elaborated throughout this first report.

The second Interim Report which has just been issued, and is the result of much specialised investigation, deals exclusively, giving examples, with the Time and Progress Schedule as worked out in England and America. The belief of the Committee is finally expressed that a time saving as high as one-third might result from the appropriate use of this method in certain instances. By the better organisation of the work on the site there could result a great saving of unremunerative capital charges and much waste of material and labour. It is suggested also that the erection of public buildings at appropriate times might do much towards the stimulation of building activity and the elimination of present acute seasonal fluctuations which have such a detrimental effect upon the industry as a whole. The report calls very definite attention to the fact that the system cannot give its best results without the fullest co-operation between the owner (whether a private individual or a public authority), the architect, the contractor, the operatives and those supplying materials. The Council ended the second Interim Report with the conclusion that, on the evidence submitted, the application of the Time and Progress Schedule to all private and public building contractors was justified as an effective means of improving efficiency and achieving a substantial reduction in costs. All building owners are urged to study the advantages of this system, which has proved so very successful both in Canada and the United States.

As justification for these endeavours it can be stated that approximately 250 million pounds are annually spent by the nation on building and maintenance of buildings. Approximately half of this is spent out of the public funds from rates or taxes; and, as is mentioned on page 12 of this unanimously agreed report, a total saving as high as 15 per cent., and a minimum saving of not less than 5 per cent., should be realised in all buildings where the Time and Progress Schedule method is followed. There are a number of concerns in England that do use this method, but its use is not by any means universal. Architects throughout the country will realise that if the mean of this 15 per cent. to 5 per cent. (that is 10 per cent.) could be saved from the cost of practically all the buildings that they have placed in their charge, many more owners would be inclined to build.

It is not an exaggeration to assume that one quarter of the poorer domestic buildings in the country could be replaced with advantage, and a great amount of business could be developed if our manufacturing plants, our factories and our offices were modernised so as to reduce the overhead charge which buildings impose upon all manufacturing undertakings.

Such a saving as these reports show indicates as clearly as possible that about 10 per cent. of the total building cost, in other words £25,000,000 per year, once the system became nationally used, would in these days mean great benefit to the nation as a whole and unquestionably would soon mean a very material increase in building generally.

The Building Industry Council proposes to continue its work, and anticipates in the near future bringing out a third Interim Report making suggestions that will tend to ease the serious unemployment situation. The present unemployment is due probably in a great measure to the abnormal financial condition; but in addition it is due to the continuance of certain good, but rather out of date, methods which have tended to add to the cost and increase the time taken in completing work.

The Council has offices at 5 Duke Street, Adelphi, W.C.2, and Mr. H. B. Bryant, the Secretary, is most completely informed on matters in this connection; he is

very willing to give information to any who have serious questions; at the same time he is always anxious to receive any information that can be put at the service of the Council to help their work.

At this time several of the major Government Departments are definitely enquiring how they can take advantage of the information gathered by the Industry Council so that it may be turned to the benefit of the country, and it is certainly hoped by all who have most unselfishly given of their time and experience during the last three years in this investigation that the nation in general and the industry in particular may derive a very definite and material benefit from the data that they have managed to gather and compile into their reports.

It is not intended that the Council should go on indefinitely, but it still has definite points upon which it desires to report; when these are concluded, unless some other special work should develop, it will terminate its activities.

Architecture at the Royal Academy

The total number of exhibits at the Royal Academy amount to 1,578 and the Architectural Room contains 176. So much for the Mother of the Arts! In the notice to artists submitting works there is a paragraph which reads, "Preference will be given to Geometrical Drawings not exceeding half inch scale." It seems a pity that this invitation is not more generally accepted. One realises the importance of the third dimension and a sense of form. There are many buildings—country houses, hospitals, schools—which depend for their interest upon an appreciation of their plan, massing and articulation, and here the perspective scores; but there are many others where well-drawn plans, sections and elevations, rendered to show planes and materials, would convey more to an architect and might quite possibly prove of more interest to the layman. It is often deplored that the architecture room is so neglected, but is the public altogether to be blamed? The architect naturally visits this room first, but the ordinary visitor, doing the Academy in the normal clockwise direction, reaches the room after having been through, at least ten others, to be met with yet more pictures. It is conceivable that drawings in a more mechanical manner, not in any way pretending to be pictures, but merely trying to put forward as clearly as possible the aspirations of their creators, would give an air of reality to the room and invite more serious consideration. A good example of this method is the monochrome rendering by Mr. Keith Murray of Nos. 83-87 Gracechurch Street, by Mr. L. Sylvester Sullivan (1205).

The exhibition as it stands appears to be a reasonably fair presentation of contemporary English architectural thought. All schools are represented: the traditionalist, which expresses its faith by the nice conduct of a hallowed motive; the school of wider sympathies which hesitates to be ruthless and combines an appreciation of the past with an expression of the necessities of the present; and the complete modernist, which wipes out any bygone references, eschews mouldings, stresses horizontals, and introduces windows at all four corners of a building.

The room is dominated by the five large drawings of Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral by Sir Edwin Lutyens (1217-24-28-34-42). This is an immense building, and Sir Edwin must feel flattered that he has been allowed to exceed, in all directions, the dimensions of St. Peter's itself. These drawings show that his inexhaustible powers of invention, his unerring sense of form and scale, and his skill in the manipulation of accepted motives is as fresh as ever. There are many other religious buildings. The Church of St. Nicholas, Burnage, Manchester (1191), by Messrs. Welch, Cachemaille-Day and Lander, shows an interior of great charm and simplicity and an impressive background to the English altar. Messrs. Knapp-Fisher, Powell and Russell exhibit a design for a cathedral (1225), which is hung too near Sir Edwin Lutyens's drawings to be properly appreciated, but which builds up well without too imitative a manner. No. 1226 is a notable presentation by Mr. R. Erith of a church near Sheffield designed by Mr. B. Hume and himself. Exquisitely drawn and tenderly coloured, this drawing is a pleasure to behold; though conventionalised, it is obviously truthful, and compares favourably with the big, take-it-or-leave-it type of drawings of which there are so many. Mr. Cyril Farey submits two churches (1235, 1333), both well designed and sympathetically portrayed. The Selection Committee always has a weakness for stained glass, and there are more than a dozen cartoons again this year. Why the stained glass artist should be so highly favoured when other crafts are not represented is one of the annually recurring mysteries.

The only one of the four Honorary Foreign Academicians to exhibit is Mr. Cass Gilbert, who is represented by three clever drawings; two of the United States Supreme Court Building at Washington (1194, 1200), and one of the American Legation Building at Ottawa (1210). They are characteristic examples of his work. The Government Buildings, Pretoria (1273) is Sir Herbert Baker's one contribution. It is an impressive design occupying a commanding site. Sir Reginald Blomfield's admirable pencil drawing of Waterloo Bridge as widened

(1270) has a pathetic interest, proving as it does that the bridge could be made to take four lines of traffic without undue interference with the original design. Sir Giles Gilbert Scott's Proposed New Library, Cambridge University (1282), as portrayed by Mr. Harvey, looks a little hard. Possibly this is due to the rather theatrical medium—black and white chalk on brown paper. Remembering Sir Giles' new buildings for Clare, it may be anticipated that the Library will blend more harmoniously with its surroundings than the drawing suggests. Without doubt the best drawing, as such, in the room is Mr. Henry Rushbury's perspective of the Reference Library, Manchester (1246) by Mr. E. Vincent Harris. Exercising extreme economy in line and colour, he has produced a drawing that makes the building really look solid, while suggesting atmospheric conditions that only Manchester can produce. New Buildings at Kingston-upon-Thames, by Mr. Maurice Webb (1243, 1274), show a somewhat surprising difference between the exterior and interior treatments. The escalator hall seems to suggest more the requirements of a modern shop.

It is pleasant to see that the L.N.E.R. proposes to clean up the mess outside King's Cross Station. Mr. A. B. Yeates' New Approach (1315) shows restraint, and ties in with the admirable design of the old station façade behind. The modern rail-

way receives appropriate treatment by Messrs. Adams, Holden and Pearson at Sudbury Town Station (1271). Here brick, concrete, and steel windows are used, as they should be, and Mr. A. Bryett has chosen the right method of displaying them to advantage. Mr. Stanley Ramsey's Proposed Tea Lounge for Winter Gardens, Margate (1293) is another example of proper functionalism. Sir John Burnet, Tait and Lorne exhibit more than one design in the modern manner: the Burlington School for Girls, Streatham (1260), and a Block of Flats, Guernsey (1295), both being typical of the best restrained English modernism. The Tuberculosis Hospital, Sully, near Cardiff, by W. A. Pite, Son and Fairweather (1313), shows how a design may express the use of a building and be all the more interesting. Mr. Stanley C. Livock's Fire Station at Norwich (1323) is a very good piece of civic design. The workpeople's dining-room in an Edinburgh Factory (1201), by Mr. Alister MacDonal, is well suited to its requirements, and the Proposed New Offices (1294), by Mr. Thomas O. Foster, reflect credit upon their designer.

There are omissions, of course. Everyone will be able to recall designs which ought to have got in and did not; but, on the whole, the net has been thrown wide and has collected together a show of considerable interest.

E. R. J.

Reviews

AN EXCURSION IN AESTHETICS*

BY W. E. VERNON CROMPTON, F.R.I.B.A.

TO those who have made any study of the history of Art in its finer aspects there soon comes the haunting feeling that, whatever sacrifices may have been exacted in its pursuit, the offering is rarely great enough to bring down from the gods that satisfying feeling of accomplishment that it is ever man's desire to attain.

Such was the mood induced by reading Dr. D. S. MacColl's *Confessions of a Keeper*, being a selection from forty years' work of scholarly, acute and urbane criticism reminding one at times of Walter Pater, but perhaps more epigrammatic: criticism that ranges over a very wide field, from the school of Michael Angelo, of Leonardo, of Raphael, of Rembrandt, than which "there is nothing more putrid in the world," to a delightfully philosophical treatment of the incoherent theses of post-impressionist painters and a sane and sober criticism entitled "Cezanne as Deity" which the next generation will doubtless read with appreciation.

As we might expect from one who knows so much more than he has written, there are certain criticisms so condensed and just, that one or two are worth quoting: what could be more poetic than to conceive of Giorgione as "a Titian with the dew of a more sacred morning upon him"; what more delightful than "Imagination is the power of seeing images in things and making

images out of them," or truer in these latter days than "Modern art is a private art, not a public speech, but conversation between a limited number of people."

There is a discriminating study of only five pages entitled "What is Art?" which architects should find attractive. Art is often, and quite wrongly, limited to the art of painting, or at most to the graphic and plastic arts, but for Dr. MacColl art "means simply a way of doing or of making things . . . it is the ordering of doing and making for use and the ordering of expression for delight. It arrives at beauty incidentally by pursuing use in the arts of use, significance in the arts of emotion."

In Art thus defined the term "fine art" becomes a subdivision, not to be confined, however, to painting, sculpture and the like, but embracing literature and music and the supreme art, the Art of Life. The characteristic art of our age, "an art bare and monumental, inflexible and ferocious, with no overflow of beauty in imagery—the Art of the Machine," falls into its proper place in our scheme of things under Dr. MacColl's definition, but he does not point out that this incursion of the Machine into Art has complicated our thinking and has made it more than ever necessary to discriminate between the pleasure arising from the contemplation of beauty and that arising from the comprehension of a logical process.

In another study called "Prettiness, Beauty, Ugliness," he glances at this point and then passes on when he says, "We habitually speak of an object as beautifully made in

* *Confessions of a Keeper, and Other Papers.* By D. S. MacColl. London: Alexander MacLehose. 1931. 12s. 6d.

the sense of made efficiently and cleanly for its purpose." Surely the satisfaction arising from the contemplation of an object "efficiently and cleanly made for its purpose" is really based in logic, and it would be more discriminating to say that the object is "well" made, leaving at liberty the word "beautifully" to apply to the æsthetic satisfaction arising from any rhythm or grace that may be found in an object that is well made. It is probably because we do not draw such a distinction that there is so much confused thinking about functionalism and design.

Dr. MacColl touches this point again in his short essay on "What is Architectural Design," where he makes play quite delightfully with some of the theories in *The Architecture of Humanism*.

Architects will remember Mr. Geoffrey Scott's thesis that the three conditions of Architecture, "Commodity, Firmness and Delight, are to be distinguished from each other by a deep and permanent disparity"; thus firmness or construction as a criterion of Architecture is a scientific criticism, "a logical standard as far as architecture is related to science and no further."

Dr. MacColl hesitates to accept this, and mentions the sailing ship—so often used for this argument—as an example of sheer unpremeditated beauty arising from a determination to meet a system of strains and pressures, to ensure stability and space for cargo and crew; in fact, to achieve firmness and commodity.

Side by side with this example, however, let us place the new temporary Waterloo Bridge, one of the latest examples of stability and commodity, of economy and efficiency; but when atmospheric and other adventitious effects are abstracted and the bridge is seen in all its flexible and ferocious utility, it makes no æsthetic appeal; we receive it not with pleasure but at best with a grudging satisfaction.

The very fact that the psychological reaction, as evoked by these two illustrations, is no straightforward matter is a reason for suspecting the doctrine, so dear to the engineer, that beauty is the inevitable result of function perfectly fulfilled.

It seems, therefore, that in the contemplation of any work of art we must discriminate between our reactions to the logic of firmness and commodity and the æsthetic of beauty and delight; it is an assumption pure and simple to say that these reactions must of necessity coincide: the universe in which we live is not quite so logical as that. These reactions may overlap and interact, they may be influenced by ethical preoccupations, by association, by our physical condition and what-not, but fundamentally our intellectual response to the logic in things, and our emotional response to the æsthetic in things, are autonomous the one to the other.

In this same essay Dr. MacColl criticises an important aspect of Geoffrey Scott's theory which, for those who have not recently read *The Architecture of Humanism*, may be condensed as follows: We "transcribe ourselves into terms of Architecture" when we identify the capability

of pressure and resistance in ourselves with pressure and resistance in a building, and in other ways when we identify ourselves with its apparent state, and conversely "we transcribe architecture into terms of ourselves" when we speak of arches springing, vistas stretching, domes swelling, Greek temples as calm and baroque facades as restless.

There is undoubtedly a mechanical flavour in the theory as thus stated which lends itself readily to the manipulations of a brilliant pen, but it seems that in his turn Dr. MacColl likewise falls astray by pressing the implications of Scott's theory too literally when he counters by saying "We know what it is to stand on the ground and lean against another object, but we do not translate the pressure of a block of stone into the pressure of our body."

The Architecture of Humanism is not such a piece of dead mechanism as this; surely the experiences we can lend to architecture from our bodies "are not so vague and general after all"; the experiences which give fullness to human life are constantly being turned into symbols by us to suggest the value or, used metaphorically, to measure the qualities in architecture.

Scott seems to make the point quite clear when discussing the quality of instability: "There is instability—or the appearance of it; but it is in the Building. There is discomfort; but it is in ourselves. What has occurred? The conclusion seems evident. The Concrete spectacle has done what the mere idea could not: it has stirred our physical memory. It has awakened in us, not indeed an actual state of instability or of being overloaded, but that condition of spirit which in the past has belonged to our actual experiences of weakness, of thwarted effort, or incipient collapse. We have looked at the building and have identified ourselves with its apparent state."

Precisely. We require that the building we are contemplating shall be the projection of the image of our human functions.

Towards the end of this essay on "What is Architectural Design?" Dr. MacColl discusses the question "What are the conditions of three-dimensional design?"

The argument may be condensed as follows:—

In painting, "which is the art of representing the solid world on a flat board or cloth," there are two elements, firstly there are the lines and shapes of varying colours to which he gives the happy expression "crazy quilt of shapes and colours." These appear on the flat of the picture and as such build up the design. The second is the element having to do with three dimensions by which we read into the picture solidity and volume.

The pleasure we receive from the interplay of these two elements in our consciousness and the significance of their relations are the tests by which we assess the value of a picture. So far so good, but to object that the first element "occupies the whole of the flat of the picture and that there is no room for an alternative design in depth which is not a design in the flat" seems to be merely a complaint that a picture is not something which it does

not set out to be: that is, something other than an object in two dimensions.

Be that as it may, it is when the argument is transferred to sculpture and architecture that it assumes importance and becomes obscure: it seems to proceed as follows:—A piece of free standing sculpture or architecture can be viewed from an infinite number of points, but from only one at a time: each therefore may be considered as one of an infinite series of separate pictures in the flat and the question is asked, "How many of these pictures in the flat produced by the solid can the architect be said to control?" That he can control very few is accentuated by the fact that it is his convention to represent his design by orthographical projection, that is, in a way never really seen. If the architect, going beyond mere plan, elevation and section, sets up his design in perspective and achieves a tolerable result from the varying but limited points chosen, even then he "is at the mercy of perspective: the constitution of solid space takes out of his hands the limited number of pictures, of points of view, he has really controlled and makes him a present of an infinite number of extra views." And for the architect to say that his design will be proportionate and pleasing from these untested points is a mere supposition.

The argument is ingenious and difficult and must suffer from being condensed, but I hope that it has been stated fairly.

Very briefly, by way of criticism, I would suggest that the analogy upon which the argument rests is not valid. Surely our single reaction to a picture, or to any other design in the flat, is static and is different not in degree but in kind from the series of reactions we receive from a piece of architecture or any other design in the round when contemplated from varying angles: it is a series not having discrete terms like the ticking of a clock which

would merely cause it to be different in degree from the single reaction, but something more analogous to the flow of a river and consequently not really a series at all but a kind of continuum which is something entirely different in kind from the single reaction received from the contemplation of a design in the flat. Dr. MacColl's argument seems to require reconsideration.

There are many points about the education of an architect peculiar to his training that are pertinent to this discussion. It is surely going a little too far to say that "over the intricate play of perspective in features like a colonnade the architect has no control," seeing that no small part of his training consists in the study of the colonnade in all its permutations and combinations under varying conditions. Further, the student is taught that certain shapes which he may draw conventionally in plan and elevation are likely to give good results; others which may look tempting in orthographic projection are known to lead to a dead end and must be discarded.

Alongside this acquisition of scholarship is the continued training of the imagination which enables the architect to create mental pictures in three dimensions whereby he can be reasonably sure how his design is likely to appear from varying points of view: a difficult enough matter in all conscience, but one which need not prevent our reading with scepticism the concluding sentence of the essay "that the solid building can never be seen except piecemeal and subject to deformation; it can only be conceived as something floating in the mind between plan and projection on paper and the fortuitous in moments of perspective space."

It is to be hoped that this provocative essay on "What is Architectural Design?" will not be overlooked by those whom it most concerns.

THE HISTORY OF HISPANIC ART

HISTORIA DEL ARTE HISPÁNICO. By the Marqués de Lozoya. Vol. 1. Barcelona: Salvat, 1931.

Reviewed by FRANK GRANGER [A.]

The learned author, a professor in the University of Valencia, publishes the first volume of an encyclopædic history, not merely of Spanish art, but of that of the Peninsula, going as far north as Toulouse, with a promise to take account in future volumes of the Spanish and Portuguese colonies. He modestly disclaims any merit beyond that of the compiler; and indeed ample bibliographies display the enormous material placed at his disposal by the industry of archaeologists and scholars mainly Spanish. But the historian of art appears behind the compiler as he summarises in successive chapters the tendencies which can be traced, beginning with the skilful paintings of the Quaternary epoch, especially in the cavern of Altamira. This remarkable beginning is continued with distinction in the art of the neolithic age. In the succeeding age of bronze, the working of the mines, in which the peninsula is so rich, attracted the Phœnicians and the Greeks. The traces of Egyptian influence seem rather to have come by way of Greece, Fig. 78, than directly as De Lozoya suggests.

We see in these well-illustrated and documented pages the national genius, through its strong individualism, putting a characteristic stamp on the motives which it borrowed from Hellenic and Punic sources; and when, to these, Roman influence was added, the fusion was complete. The author characterises the Hispanic race by its "ease in improvising, its lively intuition, its delicate apprehension and rapid expression of sensations," *pref.* iii. Hence Spanish art (the narrower term is more convenient) has never been entirely controlled by an academic tradition; even although—to take a characteristic and passing example—the rules of Vitruvius were followed as in the Temple of Diana at Evora, Fig. 142. This victory of the individual and anonymous artist is the essence of the baroque style which culminated in the peninsula.

Under the sure guidance of the author we pursue his theme through the early Christian and Visigothic periods to the Arab domination and the Romanesque which accompanied and followed it. The first volume ends on the eve of the Gothic epoch. "The glorious exception of Street" is singled out from the English, French and German critics, whose standpoint was that of Central Europe, *pref.* viii. We are left expectant of a second volume which shall continue a work so brilliantly begun.

It is characteristic of the narrowness of æsthetic criticism in England that Menéndez y Pelayo's *Historia de las ideas estéticas en España* should be scarcely known. Its merits and that of the work before us cannot be more justly characterised than by saying that they are complementary to each other, as form and material. The art of Spain is continuously original and therefore retains its freshness through almost every period of its history. Hence its rounded and self-contained completeness is happy in the interpretation which it has thus received from Spaniards themselves.

But the future is uncertain. Hitherto by a vigorous reaction against foreign influences, led by the Catholic church in alliance with the monarchy, an aristocratic tradition has included every citizen, so that even the road-sweeper is a caballero, and usually has manners to correspond. We may give a wide application to the remark of Ford: "the Spanish idiom is the manly son and heir of the Latin." *Eques Hispanicus sum* is equivalent to *Civis Romanus sum* of the days of St. Paul and expresses the mind of the race. Yet the Spaniard is also a realist. Sancho Panza accompanies Don Quixote. I will allow myself one criticism of the Marqués de Lozoya. His work would have been nearly perfect if he had turned aside more often to emphasise the somewhat sardonic humour which is never far away in Spanish literature and lurks nearly everywhere in Spanish art, even the most primitive. An Andalusian MS., Fig. 392, along with the figures of Our Lady and St. John at the foot of the Cross, has three toppers holding bottles to their mouths, sketched on the margin and "full of a gracious spontaneity."

TOWN PLANNING IN THE PAST YEAR

NATIONAL HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING COUNCIL. *Thirty-second annual report for year ended March 1932. Lond.: 1932.*

Reviewed by H. A. WELCH [F.]

This report indicates the value of well-informed and well-organised public opinion upon legislation in connection with this movement. The report contains much useful information upon the work accomplished in Scotland and in Wales. Dr. Raymond Unwin contributes an article upon "The Importance of a Statutory Regional Plan for Greater London," which shows the need for a wider appreciation of planning upon broad lines in advance of development. Articles are contributed also upon the career and achievements of Dr. Unwin, upon "The present position of London's Slums" and upon "Town Planning in relation to Suburban Railways," all of which make interesting reading and provide food for reformers. The Council has not seen realised its hopes that steady progress would continue to be made with the building of houses. The adverse effect upon Housing and Town Planning of the Government's note to Local Authorities to exercise rigid economy during the recent financial crisis is keenly felt. Local authorities generally appear to have interpreted the note as demanding a cessation of activity instead of an appeal to spend wisely. It is hoped, both in the interests of good housing and of the building industry, that local authorities will spend wisely in this direction, instead of pursuing the unfortunate policy of postponement which has been general during the past nine months. A steady and progressive policy of house building would help considerably to reduce the number of 210,000 unemployed building operatives. Building prices are favourable now, probably lower than they will be again for a considerable time.

Keener still is the disappointment felt, not only by the Council but by all who wish for the better development of the country, at the unexpected and damaging amendments by the House of Commons in Committee to the "Town and Country Planning Bill." Representations have been made by the Council which

it is hoped will bear fruit when the Bill is again considered by the House.

During the year under review the Council has held eleven important Regional Conferences in various centres, at which there attended 2,600 delegates representing more than 640 local authorities. It is stated that during the past twelve years there have been erected in England and Wales upwards of 1,693,000 houses, but that there is still evidence in many districts of a serious shortage of small modern houses at rents within the means of the lower paid wage-earners. Local authorities have submitted programmes for a total provision of about 339,000 houses in the next five years, which, according to the Ministry of Health's circular, is regarded as the bare minimum required. Birmingham has experimented with the erection of smaller non-parlour and three bedroom houses, and has built 3,817 of such houses having a floor area of 652 square feet, compared with the previously accepted 812 square feet. By so doing £40 per house, or 1s. per week, has been saved. Does the result justify the lowering of the standard? A return to the more generally accepted area of a minimum of 750 and a maximum of 950 square feet of floor area should be aimed at.

It is gratifying to note that the passing by Parliament last year of the "London Squares Preservation Act 1931" will make it considerably more difficult in future to build over the London Squares. Endsleigh Gardens and Mornington Crescent open spaces have passed, but there is now a hope that their sacrifice will not have been in vain.

TELEPHONES

FACILITIES FOR TELEPHONES IN NEW BUILDINGS. . . *General Post Office. (Compiled with assistance of R.I.B.A.). Lond.: G.P.O. 1931.*

Reviewed by W. T. BENSLYN [F.]

The increasing importance of telephone equipment in modern building is the main reason for the issue by the Post Office of this booklet.

Experience has shown the complicated nature of the cable runs necessary for a complete telephone service available for use immediately the building is complete, and the loss, annoyance and delay which result if they have not been considered in their relation to other services and the general construction of the building during the preparation of the architect's scheme.

The economy which results from intelligent provision for all types of equipment and specialist trades is becoming more and more generally recognised and the necessity for their control and co-ordination by the architect becomes more imperative each year. It is often found somewhat difficult to obtain accurate information from specialists as to their requirements during the sketch stage of building schemes, and the attempt which the Post Office have made to provide such information in this booklet shows not only their desire to help, but their appreciation of the difficulties of those responsible for the erection of buildings. The division of the booklet into sections and the provision of an index increase its usefulness.

The booklet is very fully illustrated and has diagrams showing the equipment suggested for business buildings, hotels, flats and dwelling houses. An important practical point is that ducts, etc., running in floors should if possible be kept sufficiently small in depth to allow the total floor finish above the floor slab to be not more than 3 inches. Any increase of this depth means an addition to the dead load of all floors.

In the text there is reference to the willingness of the Post Office engineers to discuss any scheme in its early stages and it is obvious that such discussion will be of great value.

PRESERVATION OF THE PEAK DISTRICT.

THE THREAT TO THE PEAK. *The Peak district: its scenery, disfigurement and preservation. With foreword by Prof. G. M. Trevelyan. Council for the Preservation of Rural England: Sheffield and Peak District Committee. Sheffield. 1931. 2s. 6d.*

Reviewed by JOHN SWARBRICK [F.]

This book is not a guide to the Peak, although, in its Preface, it contains one of the best descriptions of the scenery of this delightful district that we have ever read. It is, as Professor G. M. Trevelyan aptly states, "a word of counsel and exhortation, a 'humble petition and advice' to the inhabitants, visitors, owners and public bodies in whose hands the fate of the Peak District lies." The work, appropriately undertaken by the Sheffield and Peak District Committee of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England, reminds us in purpose, though not in form, of the Cautionary Guides to St. Albans, Oxford and Carlisle, published by the Design and Industries Association. Those of us who have seen and explored this district in spring, summer, autumn and winter, and know its varied charms in each, can appreciate, in a special way, views that recall some of these phases, such as "Kinderscout in snow." To those who have loitered in the lovely dales, tramped across the grouse moors, picked their way across its treacherous peat and encountered difficulties in its snowdrifts, every acre of this land is precious. Its solitude and forbidding aspects have become as fascinating as its more gentle moods: everything that we see stimulates the imagination and helps to enrich the mind. Such precious heritages as these are scarce: there is in fact nothing in the Midlands that can bear comparison with it. It has been, and fortunately still is, one of the most beautiful stretches that have been preserved in the whole of the country; and, for this reason, any disfigurement that desecrates it is, in fact, a matter of national and not merely of local importance.

Ignorance is one of the greatest dangers, and Professor Trevelyan takes the view that the hope of the future lies in the realm of education, by means of such propaganda as that so well conducted by the C.P.R.E. Education can do much, and doubtless will; but, it seems to us that education must seek the co-operation of legislation or some other form of action, if such an area as this is to be effectively protected. It is useless to be merely optimistic: education of the masses alone will, in our opinion, not be sufficient. Optimism is often more dangerous than pessimism. If the corporations of the surrounding large towns like Manchester, Oldham, Stockport and Sheffield would jointly acquire the nucleus of this area by compulsory powers, and form a great National Park for the joint benefit of their respective towns, some real progress might be made. The former owner of one large portion of the Peak intimated his willingness, some years ago, to give to the City of Manchester the area in his possession, for the use of the public; but, as he found that the distance was considered too great to make acceptance possible, the proposed offer was not made. Possibly the other surrounding towns would have then regarded such an offer in the same way. Education may produce eventually a wider outlook and broader conception of duty. The only question is—Will enlightenment come too late? Possibly it would, but there is one other hope, and that is that the Government may some day be willing to schedule such areas as Park Reservations and prescribe specially stringent regulations, for the purpose of preserving their sanctity for all time. If the C.P.R.E. would support a general measure of this kind, as something quite distinct from town and country planning schemes, some

progress might be made. The object naturally would not be to "plan" the Park Reservations, but rather to preserve them, in as much of their primeval beauty as possible, without any planning or development of any kind whatsoever.

All who love the natural beauties of this country and the charms of the Peak District, and who would like to see it preserved, without disfigurement, would do well to purchase this excellently produced and suitably illustrated book, which may be acquired, at the moderate price of two shillings and sixpence net, from the Sheffield and Peak District Committee of the C.P.R.E., at Endcliffe Vale House, Sheffield.

CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE.

ACADEMY ARCHITECTURE AND ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW. *A. F. Martin-Kaye, ed. Vol. 62. 1931. Lond.: Batsford. [1932.] 10s.*

This annual volume has been now for very many years one of the best memorials of our architectural faiths and works; in it may be seen not only what the buildings are like, but, since many of the illustrations are from drawings, what, presumably, their designers would have had them be if bricks and mortar could be made to obey the less confined ideals expressed by pen and brush. In the present volume we have as a start about 30 pages of assorted works from various architects and about 190 pages of the works of Sir Edwin Cooper, A.R.A. It is, of course, of great interest to see collected into one book almost a complete array of one architect's work, but we would venture to suggest that by so doing, if it means, as it must mean, the exclusion of much else, one of the greatest services that "Academy Architecture" renders is lost. It is of distinct value to have a volume in which current work is well and amply illustrated; we have in the past known that "Academy Architecture" for, say, 1910, will give a catholic display of the architecture of that year, and can reasonably stand as a token of 1910 achievement, long after, maybe, many of the important buildings illustrated are pulled down. The works, apart from those of Sir Edwin Cooper, shown in the 1931 volume, being limited to a scant 30 pages, are not representative, so that some considerable part of the proper value of the book is inevitably lost. And then, alas, there are a host of curious small errors of production which should be avoided, if ever, in the sixty-second volume of a series—enough time, one would think, for the best way of production to have been discovered.

The two parts are, for some unknown reason, paged separately (one might as reasonably start each chapter of a novel with page 1), yet in the contents table they are indexed together without indication of the part to which any particular page number refers. The muddle which results is sufficiently irritating without the added complication of having, quite unnecessarily, two pages of Sir Edwin Cooper's work inserted in the general section; and Professor A. E. Richardson's introduction to Sir Edwin Cooper's work not honoured with any page numbers. The lack of reason in these careless tricks defies explanation or description. It is everywhere recognised that the way in which a book is produced is of great importance, and thus to defy both seemliness and convention cannot but harm both the usefulness and the popularity of this potentially valuable publication. When we consider the contents we cannot, it must be admitted, find any greater reason in the selection or arrangement. The 37 buildings by Sir Edwin Cooper are assembled here in no order whatever; the various buildings designed for the Port of London Authority, for instance, are scattered in seven different places instead of being kept together; nor are the buildings arranged according to types or alphabetically; in fact, it is all "just anyhow."

Finally we would venture to ask what has been the guiding principle in the choice of the general illustrations? Some are merely designs for buildings that have not been, and presumably will not be, built; some are detailed working drawings, some are plans with indecipherable scales and lettering; some are photographs of models when the same part of the finished building is or might be illustrated. In volume 61 the contents were carefully and reasonably classified; we hope this falling-off is only temporary. Were it not that "Architecture Illustrated" has been, and could be in the future, such a useful publication the detail of these criticisms would not be necessary.

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INCORPORATING

NOTES ON RECENT PURCHASES

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List of all books, pamphlets, drawings and photographs presented to, or purchased by, the Library are published periodically. It is suggested that members who wish to be in close touch with the development of the Library should make a point of retaining these lists for reference.

Books presented by Publisher or Author marked

Books purchased marked

* Books of which one copy at least is in the Loan Library.

ARCHITECTURE

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

EMDEN (A.) AND WATSON (W. E.)

Emden and Watson's Building contracts and practice. 5th ed. of Emden's Building contracts, etc., by W. E. W.

9½" × 6", xl + 389 pp. Lond.: Butterworth. 1932. £1 5s. P.

SUMMERFIELD (W.)

The Law of arbitrations and awards.

8½" × 5½", liii + 199 pp. Lond.: Gee & Co. 1929. 12s. 6d. P.

HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY

BELLIS (H.)

From pyramid to skyscraper. A little book on architecture. (The World of Youth series, No. 7.)

7½" × 4½", vi + 150 pp. Lond.: Watts & Co. 1931. 1s. 6d. R(2).

PICARD (CHARLES)

L'Acropole. [Vol. 2.] Le plateau supérieur—l'Érechtheion—les annexes sud.

pfo. 20½" × 14½", 85 pp. + 85 pls. Paris: Morancé. [1932.] £6 10s. P.

MARMOTTAN (PAUL)

Le Style Empire. Architecture et décors d'intérieurs. Vol. v.

pfo. 17½" × 12½", 8 pp. + 40 pls. Paris: Contet. 1930. £1 17s. 6d. P.

ACADEMY ARCHITECTURE

* — and architectural review. [Annual.] A. E. Martin-Kaye, ed. Vol. 62, 1931. 9½" × 7½". Lond.: Batsford. [1932.] 10s. R.

CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN ARCHITECTS, series.

Forewords by A. T. North.

Ralph Adams Cram. Gram and Ferguson. 119 pp.

Raymond M. Hood. 121 pp.

Ely Jacques Kahn. 123 pp.

each 9½" × 7½". Lond.: McGraw-Hill. 1931. £1 17s. 6d. the 3. R.

CAREER

REILLY (C. H.)

Architecture as a profession for men and women. (From *Journal of Careers*, Mar.)

pam. 9½" × 7½", 1931. R.

BUILDING TYPES

CORLETTE (H. C.)

The King's House in the King's Square, Spanish Town, Jamaica. A report and historical review.

pam. 11" × 8½", Lond.: the author. 1932. R.

LEWIS-DALE (H. A.)

* Aviation and the aerodrome . . . (Griffin's Aeronautical Series.) 9" × 6". xi + 168 pp. + pls. Lond.: Chas. Griffin. 1932.

15s. R. and P.

DAWBARN (GRAHAM R.)

* A brief report on the design and construction of civil airports in the United States of America. (Godwin and Wimperis Bursary Report, 1931.) [Copy without illustrations in the Loan Library.]

dossier of typescript and Ph. (dupl. typescript in loan) 1932. R.

ELCOCK (C. E.)

* The present position of hospital planning and construction in Great Britain and Ireland. (From *Nosokomeion*, Oct.)

pam. 9½" × 6½", Stuttgart. 1931. R.

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL

Waterloo Bridge. Report submitted to the Council . . . 1932 [recommending rebuilding]. pam. 13" × 8". Lond. 1932. 3d. P.

WEBER (E. J.)

Catholic church buildings . . .

10½" × 7½". xxi + 377 pp. + pls. New York: Joseph F. Wagner. [1927-]. £1 5s. P.

HORSEMAN (W. G.)

The Church of Saint Michael, Southampton. (From *Journal of British Archaeological Assn.*)

pam. 9½" × 6½". [Lond.] 1916.

Presented by Mr. Arthur Keen [F.]

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH, DEPT. OF

The Building Research Station. [With block plan.]

pam. 9½" × 6". Lond.: H.M.S.O. 1928. R.

ENGINEERING, journal

The Building Research Station, Watford. [With plan.] From *Engineering*. pam. 11" × 8½". Lond. 1929. Presented by the Station.

OXFORD: UNIVERSITY

Library provision in Oxford. Report and recommendations of the Commission appointed by the congregation of the university. [Bodleian Library extension, etc.]

9½" × 7½". 153 pp. + 7 pls. Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1931. P.

KAMPFMEYER (HANS)

Homes should be near workshops. (International Housing Association.) (In 3 langs.)

11½" × 8½". 69 pp. Stuttgart: Hoffmann. [193-]. 10s. P.

JARRY (P.)

Vieux hotels de Paris. (18^e série, back title.) Les Porcherons ou le faubourg Montmartre.

16 pp. + 43 pls. 1928. £1 16s.

—, (19^e série, back title.) Le Quartier Saint-Antoine.

16 pp. + 42 pls. 1929. £1 15s.

pfo. 17½" × 12½". Paris: Contet. P.

VACQUIER (J.) AND OTHERS, editors

Les Anciens Châteaux de France. (12^{ème} série, back title.) La Touraine. By J. Vacquier.

(8) pp. + 41 pls. 1931. £1 16s.

—, (13^{ème} série, back title.) La Picardie. By P. Dubois.

12 pp. + 40 pls. 1932. £1 17s. 6d.

pfo. 17½" × 12½". Paris: Contet. P.

CHATTERTON (FREDERICK), editor

* Small houses and bungalows. (Successor to Houses, Cottages and Bungalows, 1926.)

12" × 9½". viii + 104 pp. Lond.: Archl. Press. 1932. 7s. 6d. P(2).

DECORATION, DETAILS AND ACCESSORIES

NASH (PAUL)

Room and book. [Interior decoration: book illustration.]

8½" × 5½". xix + 101 pp. + pls. Lond.: Soncino Press. 1932. 6s. P.

PALEY (F. A.), introd.

* Illustrations of baptismal fonts. Thomas Combe, ed. (Parts i-iii, as issued: 48 plates out of the 124.)

80. Lond. 1843 (whole work 1844). Presented by Mr. Arthur Keen [F.].

CONTET (F.)

Documents de ferronnerie ancienne. 7^{ème} série. Époques Louis XIII, Louis XIV, Louis XV, Louis XVI et Empire.

pfo. 17½" × 12½". prelim. + 40 pls. Paris: Contet. 1929. £1 15s. P.

ALLIED ARTS AND CRAFTS AND ARCHEOLOGY

FITZGERALD (FRANCIS)

The General genteel preceptor: part the fifth ('3' on back), being a summary introduction to the arts of drawing, architecture, &c. . . . (Index and back cover lacking.)

8" × 5". (224) pp. + pls. Lond. 1797. Presented by Mr. S. H. Lesceth [F.].

LOZOYA, MARQUÉS DE

Historia del arte hispánico. Vol. 1.

9½" × 6½". xxxii + 532 pp. Barcelona: Salvat. 1931. R.

(To be continued.)

Correspondence

COMPETITIONS

"Adam House,"
60 Strand, London, W.C.2.

13 May 1932.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

DEAR SIR,—I think it well to draw the attention of members to certain figures which were quoted at the Annual Meeting of the Institute on Monday 9 May.

We sometimes hear from members that the Competitions Committee is possibly rather too strict in requesting the observance of the Regulations governing Competitions and that more laxity might be allowed to the Promoters of such Competitions. Members must remember, however, that all the Regulations under which the Competitions Committee works have been approved by overwhelming majorities of the Institute itself and it is, therefore, not competent for the Committee to vary these Regulations which were only drawn up after most careful discussion and approved by the Council. Members should also remember that it is in their own interests to see that these Regulations are brought before the notice of anyone proposing a Competition, whether large or small, or even of a more or less private nature. The value of the work that has been done by the Institute in endeavouring to regularise Competitions is shown by the gradual advance which has been made in the Education of the Lay Promoters which can be immediately appreciated from the following figures.

In 1923-1924, 31 Competitions were submitted to the Committee, and of these only 9 were approved. Five were amended by the Promoters and 16 were actually vetoed. In the last year 1931-32, 32 Competitions were submitted to the Committee, 28 were immediately passed through as in order, 2 were modified by the Promoters after consultation with the Committee, and none was vetoed.

It seems therefore to be fairly well proved that Promoters are beginning to realise that it is not only in the interests of Architects that these Regulations have been drawn up but they actually protect the Promoters themselves, and ensure as far as it is possible to do so the probable success of the appeal to Architects for designs.

It has appeared to some of us that it might be well for members to have these facts placed before them and I would be particularly glad, on behalf of the Committee, if members would advise the Secretary of the Competitions Committee immediately they hear of the promotion of a Competition whether large or small. We frequently hear of these too late to negotiate, with the result that the Institute may be blamed for inactivity whereas it is the local members themselves who should have brought the matter immediately to the notice of the Institute.—I beg to remain, Yours faithfully,

C. ERNEST ELCOCK,
Chairman, Competitions Committee, R.I.B.A.

ARCHITECTURAL COPYRIGHT

4 Raymond Buildings,
Gray's Inn, London, W.C.1.

12 May 1932.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—I wonder how many of your readers have shuddered at the lawyer's notion of what constitutes design in architecture, as set out in some detail by Sir William Hansell, K.C., one of the official Referees, in the case of *Blake v. Warren* (paragraph "k" in the leaflet No. 5 recently circulated with the Journal).

The learned Referee makes no claim to infallibility. He can only base his views on what another lawyer has thought previously. The question was the "artistic character" of the elevation of certain small houses. The previous judge had apparently laid it down that it was "not enough to have used the common stock of ideas—there must be some originality, something that I suppose strikes the eye."

On this basis the learned referee reaches the following decision: "With regard to Type No. 4 and Type No. 5, I have come to the conclusion that there is an artistic design and character in both these types, and particularly it is more evident in perhaps Type No. 5, which shows a timbered, or half-timbered front, which is unusual if that be an element to consider—it is certainly artistic."

We are evidently to draw our architectural inspiration from Peacehaven rather than Church Row, Hampstead. If the Copyright Act is not to be a disaster, surely the legal Referee should have the help of an architectural assessor in cases of this kind.—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM G. NEWTON [F.].

THE NEW BUILDING

3 Grays Inn Square,
W.C.1.

24 May 1932.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—The interest aroused by the winning design for the R.I.B.A. building is so great that you will perhaps allow me to make a few observations upon it. Before venturing to do this I have waited several weeks in order that the design should sink into my mind. I may now say that I could almost reproduce the plans, sections and elevations from memory. I have never felt an inclination to pay a similar compliment to the design of any other contemporary architect. But then this building is of such peculiar importance that it seems to merit such close attention. For it is more than just the solution of a particular architectural "programme," it is a symbol of the artistic competence of the profession as a whole. It is all the more desirable, therefore, that we should be content with the symbol, and more than this, find reasons for being proud of it.

Naturally the choosing of a design for the new R.I.B.A. has been a nervous business. Was it possible to satisfy both the

"modernists" and the "traditionalists"? That was the question that agitated the minds of so many of us. And now we have the assessor's award and can judge how far Mr. Grey Wornum's scheme fulfils this difficult condition. I understand that a number of representative English "modernists" have expressed their approval of the design. As it has come about that my name has been associated with a number of assaults upon the "modernist" position, it has occurred to me that the harmonies of architectural debate would in some slight measure be promoted if, in all humility, I add my name to the list of those who have already paid a tribute to the winning design.

The design seems to me to be amazingly good for the following reasons:—

1. It has the characteristic of urbanity which enables it to take its place worthily in one of the few remaining stately streets of the metropolis. It is, in fact, an example of "good manners in architecture."

2. By virtue of this urbanity it deserves to be described as an *English* design, for the English at their best periods exhibited a genius for street architecture far greater than that shown by the Italians, the French, the Germans, or any other people. Thus in one respect the building represents a return to an almost lost tradition.

3. The building is fortunately free from the afflictions of rusticity which during the last fifty years have done so much to ruin our English towns. It has no gables nor tall chimneys.

4. On the other hand, it does not go to the opposite extreme and express an unwarrantable degree of civic pomp. It represents a protest against the numerous commercial buildings which exploit the resources of the Classic style for purposes of vulgar display. The building has not got a ponderous municipal air, it does not flaunt an unnecessary dome nor a row of gigantic classic columns.

5. It likewise avoids those "modernist" malpractices which in their own way are just as destructive of the harmony of a street. Its fenestration is sensible and normal, that is to say the windows are not joined together in long vertical or horizontal slits. Consequently the building has a pleasant human scale.

6. In respect of ornament the design is of great interest because it rejects the doctrines of those modern puritans who would have us believe that ornament is out of place in the present age. The architect has achieved the remarkable feat of inventing new ornament which is also consistent with itself.

7. The individual rooms of the R.I.B.A. will be admirably adapted to their practical uses and at the same time are invested with a suitable dignity.

Thus it seems to me that we may all congratulate ourselves that the future home of the Institute will have these distinguished architectural qualities.—Yours faithfully,

A. TRYSTAN EDWARDS [A.].

SUGAR TO STRENGTHEN BUILDINGS

*The Croft,
Aberkenfig, Glam.*

25 April 1932

DEAR SIR,—The following appeared in a contemporary journal a few days ago:—

"Buildings, bridges, and other structural work would last longer and be far stronger if common cane sugar were one of the ingredients used in the construction, scientists were told by the Mellon Institute of Industrial Research. Only five or six

pounds of sugar are necessary to every 100 pounds of lime in order to endow the material with greatly increased strength. At the present low price of sugar the discovery is thought to have considerable commercial value."

It would be interesting to know what has been the experience of professional men in this country in a similar connection. Here is my own.

Some 13 years ago, tenders were invited for the erection of a residence for one of my clients. The period of the year was midwinter. The house was to be faced with pressed bricks with rubbed mortar joints. The builder whose tender was tentatively accepted desired to have the usual clause anent "making good damage to pointing, etc., from frost" expunged from the contract owing to the persistent and heavy frosts then occurring. My client upon my advice agreed to forgo the clause so far as it applied to damage to pointing, and the builder agreed to mix Demerara sugar into the mortar in the proportion of 5 lb. of sugar for every 100 lb. of lime used in the mortar for pointing.

Although there were repeated frosts throughout the period of building, not a single joint was disturbed; and, further, they are to-day as good as when first rubbed in.

The mortar used was specified to be 1 part blue lias lime to 3 parts of boiler ashes ground in a mill.—Yours faithfully,

FRANK H. HEAVEN [A.].

THE DURABILITY OF WALL TIES IN CAVITY WALLS.

*Wellington Buildings,
The Strand,
Liverpool.
24 March 1932.*

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

DEAR SIR,—The correspondence in the R.I.B.A. JOURNAL of 19 March last has influenced me to give my experience with a small house at Blackpool erected, as far as I can ascertain, about sixty years ago. The front $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. of the 11 in. cavity walls had belled out 4 to 5 inches and many of the floor joists had lost their wall hold on the inside $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. wall. The plaster cornices had left the walls and there was a space varying between 2 and 3 inches. As the building was no longer habitable with safety, it was decided to pull it down. At the demolition I found the following reasons for the defects in the House:—

1. The wall ties were spaced about one to the super yard instead of three to the super yard.
2. The return angles of the building had no ties.
3. The ties were of wrought iron well corrugated where they had wall hold and good strong ones with fish tails.
4. They were very rusty and it was difficult to say if they had ever been galvanized.
5. The ties had rusted away in the centre between the two thicknesses of wall. The portion of tie that had been buried in the brickwork was completely preserved.
6. My opinion is that moisture had settled on the ties and the constant dripping and want of air inside the cavity had resulted in the ties perishing in this manner.

I am of the opinion a cavity should have 9 in. by 3 in. ventilation bricks placed at the base and under the eaves to give ventilation to the cavity. Many of my Architectural friends do not agree with me but my own house is built in this way and it is very dry and seems to be standing up to its job all right.—Yours truly,

GILBERT FRASER [F.].

Architects' Benevolent Society

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The eighty-second Annual General Meeting of the Architects' Benevolent Society was held in the rooms of the R.I.B.A. on Thursday, 12 May 1932, at 5 p.m. The President, Dr. Raymond Unwin, took the chair. Others present included Mr. Walter Tapper, Mr. H. S. E. Vanderpant, Vice-Presidents, Mr. H. D. Searles-Wood, Mr. Sydney D. Kitson, Mr. E. P. Warren, Mr. H. Alan Slater, Mr. E. Hadden Parkes, Mr. S. Phillips Dales, Mr. R. Dircks, Mr. Osborn C. Hills, Mr. Charles Woodward, Mr. A. H. Moberly, Mr. E. Stanley Hall, Mr. C. McArthur Butler, Mr. F. R. Hiorns, Mr. L. S. Sullivan, Mr. Maurice E. Webb, Honorary Treasurer, Sir Charles Nicholson, Honorary Secretary, Miss E. H. Mann, Secretary.

The President, in moving the adoption of the Annual Report and Balance Sheet, said:—

"In proposing the adoption of the Annual Report of the Benevolent Society I am glad to be able to say that in spite of a bad year for architects, subscriptions have been maintained and are indeed a few pounds more than they were last year. We have been greatly helped by some substantial contributions, including fifty guineas from our Honorary Treasurer, Mr. Maurice Webb, £25 from Mr. A. H. Moberly and from Mr. George Edwards, £21 from Mr. Arthur Ashbridge, £10 10s. from Mr. H. R. Goodrham, and others of a smaller amount. We have also received a legacy of £50 from Mr. H. P. Monkton and £36 from Mr. J. H. Woodhouse.

"Owing to the bad conditions, we are receiving an increased number of applications and our funds are inadequate to help all the serious cases that come before us. I am not appealing to members here who are already doing their part in furthering the work of the Society, but should like to bring home to others members of our profession how much we need their help.

"The Society's Insurance Scheme continues to make good progress, nearly £500 having been received in commission. The scheme of pensions for architects and architects' assistants which has been worked out during the year will prove invaluable to our profession if taken up generally and ought in the future to relieve the fund of some of the claims that are made upon it. It is not now time to launch the scheme publicly, but a number of members of Council and others have been admitted to it. The scheme is going forward quietly and no doubt this period of waiting will give time for matters to be tested out and experience gained.

"We have to thank the *Builder*, the *Architects' Journal*, the *Architect and Building News* and *Architectural Design and Construction* for giving us free advertising space and help in various ways.

"An important development during the year has been the forma-

tion of the Architects' Unemployment Committee, which Mr. Webb has organised and on which the R.I.B.A., the Architects' Benevolent Society, the Architectural Association and the Association of Architects, Surveyors and Technical Assistants are represented. We are much indebted to Mr. Webb and the Committee for what they have been able to do to relieve unemployment among architects. £2,800 has been received up to the present, of which £1,800 represents donations and £1,000 subscriptions. Subscriptions average £300 a month. We are spending up to the limit of our income and are employing only a fourth of those who have applied to us for help. It is interesting to note that in America, where unemployment is even more serious than it is here, similar means of relief have been adopted. In Boston 658 men have been registered as unemployed among engineers alone, of whom 146 have been put to work through their relief bureau and 52 have been found work outside. A similar number of architects and architects' draughtsmen is affected and over there, as with us, they are using the occasion to get useful work done and are giving employment as we are in connection with Civic Survey schemes, town planning and some other schemes of public utility which fortunately in this country it is not necessary for us to develop as they are regularly dealt with by the Local Authorities."

The Council for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—

President.—Dr. Raymond Unwin, P.R.I.B.A.

Vice-Presidents.—Mr. Walter Tapper, A.R.A., P.P.R.I.B.A.; Mr. H. S. E. Vanderpant, Hon. A.R.I.B.A.

Ordinary Members.—Mr. H. Austen Hall [F.]; Mr. W. Curtis Green, A.R.A. [F.]; Mr. E. C. P. Monson, F.S.I. [F.]; Mr. W. Henry White [F.]; Mr. F. R. Hiorns, F.S.A. [F.]; Mr. Charles Woodward [A.]; Mr. L. S. Sullivan [F.]; Mr. C. E. Elcock [F.]; Mr. S. Phillips Dales [F.]; Mr. R. Dircks, Hon. A.R.I.B.A.; Mr. Maxwell Ayrton [F.]; Mr. C. McArthur Butler [L.]; Mr. J. Alan Slater [F.]; Mr. A. Saxon Snell [F.]; Sir A. Brumwell Thomas [F.]; Mr. Francis Jones [F.] (representing the Manchester Society); Mr. C. M. Hadfield [F.] (representing the Sheffield, South Yorkshire and District Society); Mr. E. Stanley Hall [F.] (representing the Architectural Association); Mr. Arthur Crow [F.] (representing the London Society); Mr. Ingaltton Sanders [F.] (representing the Hampshire Society); Mr. E. Hadden Parkes [F.] (representing the Mount Pleasant Artists' Rest Home).

Honorary Treasurer.—Mr. Maurice E. Webb, D.S.O., M.C., M.A. (Cantab).

Honorary Secretary.—Sir Charles Nicholson, Bart., M.A. (Oxon).

Mr. C. H. Brodie and Mr. Osborn C. Hills were re-elected honorary auditors for the ensuing year.

Architects' Unemployment Relief Fund

The Architects' Unemployment Relief Fund are now employing 45 men, but have still a distressing number on their books who urgently want work and for whom, owing to lack of funds, no work can be found. It is perhaps inevitable that contributions should fall off a little, but the Committee continue to receive applications from cases they are most anxious to help. They are spending at present all their income, and unless further support is forthcoming it will not be possible to engage more men. The Committee would like to emphasise that the work done is of a useful nature and earnestly appeal for further contributions to carry it forward.

No new subscribers have joined the scheme since the last list was published in the JOURNAL, but various donations have been received. The President, Dr. Raymond Unwin, has sent a donation of £10 in addition to his usual monthly subscription. Mr. G. Grey Wornum has sent £20; £10 10s. has been received from the Northern Architectural Association and £10 from Mr. Percy Morris. The Plymouth Branch of the Devon and Cornwall Society have sent £5 5s.; the Architectural Staff of Messrs. Courage and Co. £3 9s. 6d. (third donation); Mr. E. Playne £3; Mr. C. McArthur Butler £2 2s. (in addition to a monthly subscription), and Mr. Francis J. Garlick and Mr. S. Reynier Day each £1 1s.

Obituary

PROFESSOR SIR PATRICK GEDDES.

To those who knew and worked with the late Professor Patrick Geddes there remain memories of one who seemed to hold the secret of perennial youth. His many interests bewildered all who met him for the first time, and only by degrees there came a realisation that each one of his undertakings was related to a central idea.

Always a student, he travelled widely, finding stimulus and adventure, now in the scientific study of nature, again in survey and interpretation of man's work as builder of cities.

This thirst for wide experience might seem to indicate merely a restless spirit seeking ever new fields of observation; actually it was controlled by an evergrowing desire to find means of declaring the unity of science and art, of experience and expression, in an age of too many detached specialised activities. Cities he saw as complex organisms growing from simple beginnings, man's greatest achievement in so far as their builders maintain contact with and reverence for Nature—man's greatest curse when they become parasitic.

Hence his belief in the value of Nature study, of Regional and Social Surveys, of Masques and Pageants, as a means of re-awakening the sense of civic pride in an age when life appears more and more to be at the mercy of machines. His great contribution towards the art of Town planning lies largely in his insistence on broad-based preliminary study, carried far beyond statistical and technical data, and directed towards better understanding of the peculiar and unique spirit of any given place—a spirit which he showed to be the outcome of permanent natural conditions acting on, yet affected by the aspirations of the people who live there.

Thus understood and planned, or re-planned, he saw how our villages and cities might recover through conscious design something of that older individuality which has been largely smothered by the industrialism of the last century. Town planning meant much more to him than the working out of traffic needs, drainage systems, and elementary zoning. For he recognised, through his wide experience of travel and historic study, that active communities, if they have certain continuing characteristics, have also the faculty of blossoming in new and unexpected ways.

Hence his impatience, sometimes rising to anger, with all those who attempted to bind the life of the future, by standardising the past as they knew it, instead of preparing the way for our happier successors.

His influence on Architecture may be less obvious and more difficult to assess at this time of transition. In the course of his studies directed towards the synthesis of human knowledge, he came more and more to value diagrams as a form of intensive shorthand, and to realise how such synthetic diagrams may rise into symbolism and pass into Art. To him such symbols were not arbitrary or fixed, they were functional and growing—they might be likened to buds of thought opening by degrees into flowers of imagination.

To him all true architecture was functional, not simply in terms of material, but in the wider sense that it arises as the consciously designed symbol of some ideal. Perhaps what he taught was the difference between living balance and static symmetry; between a home for expanding life and a mausoleum of fixed memories.

Mere formalism, however splendid, repelled him. He

believed, as did Lethaby, that great Architecture, as opposed to big building, is always in some sense microcosmic, mirroring in little space man's vision of the Universe. So he interpreted the Temples, the Cathedrals, and so he planned the University of Jerusalem from the summit of Mount Scopus—on a scheme of radiating and expanding main departments, each with its portal fronting a domed hall which symbolised both in form and in its decoration the unity of knowledge.

So too, on a lesser scale, he planned his Outlook Towers, as centres of Regional and Local Survey, affording architects a new motif for the design of what are too often but empty shells.

Limits of space at this time do not permit of more than a brief note recalling his work for the preservation of Historic Edinburgh through the co-operation of University and City in his "Town and Gown Association";—his rebuilding of Crosby Hall in Chelsea with the same object in view; his plan for the Zoological Park in Edinburgh where animals are shown in relation to natural surroundings; his travelling Cities and Town planning Exhibition; his many Town planning reports, notably those for Indian Cities; and his books on "City Development" and "Cities in Evolution."

Yet by many he will be remembered best for the wealth of stimulus and suggestion which he put freely at the disposal of all who sought his help, or had the good fortune to share in the enjoyment of his talk.

F. C. MEARS.

WILLIAM MACKENZIE [L.]

Mr. Wm. MacKenzie, who died at Ben View, Canon Bridge, on 12 March 1932, at the age of 74, served his articles with the late Dr. Alexander Ross [F.], of Inverness; after further studies at Edinburgh University he returned to his native town of Dingwall, and started business on his own account in 1886, being elected a member of the Society of Architects in 1887.

He held a part-time appointment with the County Council of Ross and Cromarty from 1890 until within the last six months when he retired, during which time he carried out for them, and the various subordinate Local Authorities throughout the county, a great deal of work, such as schools, hospitals, police stations, housing schemes, etc., also drainage and water supply schemes, during the same period he acted as Inspector of Piers and Harbours.

His villas, farmhouses and buildings and cottages are widely scattered over the county. He built several churches on his own before 1900, after the union of the United Presbyterian and Free Churches, going into partnership with Mr. Donald MacDonald. He fulfilled many important commissions for the U.F. Church of Scotland, examples of his work being the United Free Churches and Manses at Dingwall, Strathpeffer and Conon. His firm was also responsible for the new Septcentenary Town Hall, built in Dingwall in 1927.

FREDERICK GEORGE MANT [L.]

The life of an architect's assistant is none the less honourable and useful because it is not spent in the limelight and the death of Frederick George Mant, L.R.I.B.A., which took place on Sunday 10 April, will be felt by many people, not least by his fellow workers and those who had had to deal with him in his professional career.

He came to me as a young boy with no previous architectural training some 35 years ago and, except for a period of war service, he spent the rest of his life as my assistant. In course of time he was entrusted with many responsibilities and he never failed in his trust. He was a most loyal, unselfish and untiring worker, liked by everybody, and knew his work thoroughly. His record is one of duty done cheerfully and well.—CHARLES A. NICHOLSON [F.]

Allied Societies

NOTTINGHAM, DERBY AND LINCOLN SOCIETY

The President, Dr. Raymond Unwin, was present at the annual dinner of this Society, which was held at the Black Boy Hotel, Nottingham, on 23 March. Mr. T. C. Howitt [F.], President of the Society, being in the chair.

Responding to the toast of "The R.I.B.A. and the Allied Societies," Dr. Unwin said that our forefathers, if they could come back, would be very surprised at the condition of things to-day. Progress had gone on at a rapidly accelerating speed—a speed with which we could not hope to keep pace—yet all this progress was not pure gain, although, up to now, there was a very distinct gain on the balance.

Dr. Unwin remarked how encouraging it was to see the enormous progress that had been made in our life-time with housing estates which had created an entirely new environment. Regarding unemployment, he said that an enormous amount of slum clearance work and replanning remained to be done, yet unreasonably we maintained in idleness 300,000 building operatives; as an intelligent people we had to find a way out.

Commenting on the lack of logical planning of our new roads, Dr. Unwin said that this was an aspect of town planning that would concern the next generation. He expressed surprise at the amount of opposition in a certain Parliamentary Committee to the extension of town planning powers to enable local authorities to co-ordinate the planning of built-up areas as well as of undeveloped land. Dr. Unwin wished that Derbyshire members could show Buxton to the Marquis of Hartington so he might see how some of his ancestors took advantage of town planning powers long before those powers were given to municipalities and how they had had the sense to see it was good business for the owner to plan his land. It was disappointing, he said, to find a man with these traditions among the opponents of the extension of planning so that those connected with municipalities might have a chance to help to bring order and planning into so much of this development.

Mr. John B. Surman [F.], President of the Birmingham Association, also responded.

In proposing "The Cities of Nottingham, Derby and Lincoln," the Chairman said that Dr. Unwin's name would always be associated with the open healthy arrangement of houses that was now so much appreciated by the general public. In a determined effort, he said, to improve the standard of civil architecture, the local Society had arranged for an Architecture Medal to be awarded every three years for the most attractively designed building erected in the area of the province. Referring briefly to unemployment, Mr. Howitt congratulated the Nottingham City Council on the reasonable and logical view they took with regard to the future building programme in the district. He mentioned that cities of the size of Birmingham and Manchester had, with great success, set up small advisory boards to offer suggestions to the Council on any important development. It was only really necessary, he said, to settle four simple points, namely, the material to be used, the correct height for the buildings, the height of the roof and the height of the shop fronts. It would be agreed that the time was ripe for the local authority definitely to settle the policy for development something on the lines on these points.

The Lord Mayor of Nottingham (Alderman W. Green) responded to the toast and paid a tribute to those who took an interest in the city's housing problems. He referred to the wide interest aroused by the Council House which was designed by Mr. Howitt.

Mr. G. Morley Eaton [F.] proposed "The R.I.B.A. and the Allied Societies," and the toast of "Our Guests" was given by Mr. C. H. Calvert [J.], to which Mr. N. Denholm Davis (Chairman of the Nottingham Society of Artists) responded.

ESSEX, CAMBRIDGE AND HERTFORDSHIRE SOCIETY

The Annual General Meeting of the Essex, Cambridge and Hertfordshire Society of Architects was held at the R.I.B.A. on 28 April. There was a very good attendance of members.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and the Annual Balance Sheet of the Society confirmed, the officers were elected to serve for the year 1932-33.

A vote of thanks having been accorded to the retiring officers and members of Council,

The new President, Mr. H. C. Hughes, M.A. (Cantab.) [F.] began his address with a warm tribute to the work of the officers of the Society during the past year. He especially emphasised the important position occupied by the Past President, Mr. Phillips Dales, who had sat on the preliminary Registration Council. The registration of architects, he said, was a very important step in the protection of the public from people who had no training and no qualifications, and it was very important that the public should clearly understand what the Registered Architect meant. At the same time it gave to qualified and trained architects a privileged position, and they must see to it that they are worthy of the privilege.

To-day the results of unlimited competition were painfully apparent, architects were suffering terribly from unemployment. Local authorities had been most abrupt and complete in their abandonment of long established programmes of building, but private persons everywhere were holding up their schemes with the result that though building is cheaper now than it is ever likely to be again scarcely any was being done, and many architects and architectural assistants were almost destitute. He urged private individuals and public authorities to consider whether they could not carry out at least a modified programme of building instead of adding so much to the burden of unemployment. If building was out of the question, the architectural staffs could be employed on valuable survey work.

Perhaps some work could be found for young architects as designers to English manufacturers when the new tariffs tempted them to production. It was a unique opportunity for English firms to show that they could produce things which were beautiful, not just ornamental.

Continuing, the President urged all architects to use all their influence to help to make the development which was taking place so widely in the three counties, most and worst perhaps in Essex, which was so English in its lovely countryside, into something of which we could be proud and not ashamed. He welcomed the formation last year of the Hertfordshire Society and still more recently the Essex branch of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England. Now, as Cambridge had also its Preservation Society as well as C.P.R.E. all the counties had their societies. Architects also who were on Architectural Panels could do a most valuable work. Cambridge and Hertfordshire had their separate panels, and so had the West Essex and Southend Chapters of the Society. He emphasised how very useful these panels could prove if only the local authorities or private individuals would ask for their help and advice, which was given free.

In conclusion, Mr. Hughes said he was not asking for a country architecture of creosoted half timber and olde Englysshe shoppe. The modern building, factory, house, or shack, had their own problems and their own best solutions, simple, unornamental and inevitable. Roofs might be flat or roofs might be pitched, but the true architect was he who with a mind stored with the beauty of the English countryside could produce something fresh, simple, and vital.

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION

The Annual General Meeting of this Association was held recently at Stoke-on-Trent, the President, Mr. J. B. Adams [F.] being in the chair.

Following the election of Officers and Council, the retiring President, Mr. J. B. Adams [F.], congratulated Mr. Maddox on his election as President, and in his report of the past year referred to the resignation of Mr. Beckett [F.] on his retirement and the loss to the Association of so valuable a member, but was pleased to mention that he had been offered and had accepted honorary membership.

Mr. Adams expressed his grateful thanks to all members of the Association for the support given him during his term of office, par-

ticularly mentioning the work of Mr. Edwards, the retiring Joint Secretary, and his appreciation of Mr. Hulme's offer to be secretary for the ensuing year.

Reference was made to the success of the Annual Dinner and to the various interesting lectures and other activities of the past session.

On taking over the chair, the newly elected President, Mr. F. Morrall Maddox [J.], expressed his pleasure at the honour of his election, and in the course of his speech said he hoped to keep up the traditions of his predecessors and to formulate a constructive policy.

He proceeded to explain the public usefulness of the Association to the district and to its own members, and expressed the belief that architecture was very much more on the map in North Staffordshire at the present time than it was before the formation of the Association seven years ago, and that the outlook was essentially more cheerful. He also alluded to the amalgamation of the Association with the Liverpool Architectural Society and commented on the friendly and helpful relationship established.

Mr. Maddox further referred to the activities of the students' section, and particularly to the interesting lectures and debates which had been arranged by them, and hoped that these would continue.

Mr. R. L. Jones [L.] then expressed appreciation of the honour conferred on him in being elected to the office of Vice-President, and Mr. Edwards thanked Mr. Adams and Mr. Maddox for their kind expressions on his retiring from the secretaryship.

THE WELSH SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

VISIT TO UNIVERSITY REGISTRY EXTENSIONS

On the afternoon of 27 April 1932, the students of the Welsh School of Architecture, accompanied by Mr. Lewis John, M.A., B.Arch. [J.], Mr. A. MacLean, B.A. [J.], and the Head of the School, Mr. W. S. Purchon, M.A. [J.], visited the extensions to the University Registry, Cathays Park, Cardiff, which have recently been completed by Messrs. Knox and Wells, Ltd., of Cardiff, from the designs of Mr. T. Alwyn Lloyd [F.]. Mr. Jenkin James, M.A., Secretary of the University Council, welcomed the visitors.

The working drawings and details for the building and its fittings were first shown by the Architect, who then accompanied the party on a tour of inspection. The new buildings have been erected to provide adequate accommodation for the administrative staff of the University of Wales, of which the Colleges of Aberystwyth, Bangor, Swansea and Cardiff, together with the Welsh School of Medicine, are the constituent bodies. Besides the Registry Staff, the National Council of Music, the University Appointments and Press Boards will be housed in these extensions.

THE PRESIDENT'S ENGAGEMENTS

The President will be attending the *Conversazione* at the Institution of Civil Engineers on 8 June.

THE ARCHITECTS REGISTRATION COUNCIL

The Council is holding its meetings at 9 Conduit Street, W., by courtesy of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and its staff are temporarily accommodated at 18 Abingdon Street, Westminster.

The Council has appointed as Registrar, Mr. C. McArthur Butler, F.C.I.S., L.R.I.B.A., who was Secretary of the late Society of Architects, and he has entered upon the duties of his office at the above address.

The Board of Architectural Education and the Admission Committee constituted in accordance with the Second and Third Schedules of the Act respectively, have been appointed by the Council, and considerable progress has been made, in drafting, for the approval of the Privy Council, the regulations to be prescribed for carrying out and facilitating the purposes of the Act.

No information as to the procedure to be followed by applicants for registration can be given until the Privy Council has

A vote of thanks to Mr. T. Alwyn Lloyd and the University authorities, proposed by Mr. W. S. Purchon, was carried with acclamation.

SOUTH EASTERN SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

The Annual Meeting of the Tunbridge Wells District Chapter of the South Eastern Society of Architects was held at Tunbridge Wells on 3 May. The Chairman, Mr. John W. Little [F.], Tonbridge, presided. The annual report was read by the hon. secretary, Mr. G. Gregor Grant [J.]. It dealt with the various activities of the Society during the past year—visits paid to the Lunsford Brick Works at Bexhill, and to the Judd Commercial School, Tonbridge; exhibition and soirée at Tonbridge; the work of the Advisory Panels; the Design Club for Students, etc. It also stated that voluntary advisory panels are now at work in connection with the East Grinstead R.D.C., Sevenoaks U.D.C. and Sevenoaks R.D.C., and that similar panels are in process of formation in connection with Eastbourne R.D.C. and Hailsham R.D.C.

A statement of accounts was presented by Mr. Cecil Burns, showing a substantial balance in hand. It was resolved to allocate the sum of five guineas to the unemployment fund of the Society.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—Chairman, Major W. H. Robinson [F.], County Architect, Maidstone; treasurer, Mr. C. J. Cable [F.], Sevenoaks; auditor, Mr. H. C. Scotto [L.], Maidstone; secretary, Mr. G. Gregor Grant [J.], Tunbridge Wells.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman, Mr. J. W. Little, for his services during the past two years, was proposed by Mr. Gregor Grant, who also referred to Mrs. Little, who on several occasions during her husband's chairmanship had entertained the members.

SHEFFIELD, SOUTH YORKSHIRE AND DISTRICT SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS AND SURVEYORS

The annual general meeting of the Society was held at the Sheffield University on 14 April, the President, Mr. W. G. Buck [F.], in the chair.

The forty-fourth annual report of the Society was read and approved. The Hon. Treasurer's statement of accounts was presented and adopted.

The following officers and the Council were elected for the Session 1932-33:—President, J. Lancashire [F.]; Vice-President, J. M. Jenkinson [F.]; Hon. Treasurer, J. R. Wigful [F.], F.S.A.; Hon. Secretary, H. B. S. Gibbs [J.].

The meeting concluded with votes of thanks to the retiring President and to the Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary.

Notes

approved the regulations. Architects who desire information are, therefore, asked to defer making enquiries until an official announcement to this effect has been published by the Council.

AN EXHIBITION OF WORKING DRAWINGS

There is to be an exhibition of working drawings in the R.I.B.A. Galleries from 15 to 25 June, inclusive, when drawings from the offices of Mr. E. Stanley Hall [F.] (Laboratory Block, Queen Charlotte's Hospital, Hammersmith, House at Headley, Surrey), Mr. T. P. Bennett [F.] (Saville Theatre), Mr. H. T. Buckland [F.] (Violet Melchett Infant Welfare Centre), Messrs. Herbert O. Ellis and Clarke [FF.] (*Daily Express* Building), Mr. W. H. Ansell [F.] (Hospital at Westbury, Wilts.), will be exhibited. On Wednesday, 15 June, there will be a special students' evening, when the drawings will be explained by the architects or their representatives. Refreshments will be provided and no admission cards are needed.

CORRECTION

In the notice of Applications for Membership which was published in the last number of the *JOURNAL* on p. 593, the date of election was wrongly stated to be Monday 15 June. This should, of course, be Monday 13 June.

THE STANDARD FORM OF CONTRACT

Cases have recently been brought to the notice of the Council, of builders being asked to tender for work on the basis of the 1929 Form of Contract.

The Council desire to remind members that the 1931 Standard Form of Contract was issued for use in July, 1931, when all existing Forms were withdrawn from circulation. The Council feel that it is very desirable that members should use the 1931 Form of Contract whenever possible. A Joint Tribunal of Architects and Builders has been set up to consider and report upon any difficulties which may arise in connection with the wording of the document with a view to its amendment if found desirable and necessary.

It is hoped, therefore, that members will report any difficulties which may occur in their practices in connection with the interpretation or working of the new Form so that they may be considered by the Tribunal.

NOTES FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL,

11 April 1932

THE BRITISH ARCHITECTS' CONFERENCE 1933

On the recommendation of the Allied Societies' Conference it was decided to accept the invitation of the Cambridge Chapter of the Essex, Cambridge and Hertfordshire Society of Architects to hold the British Architects' Conference at Cambridge in 1933.

EXAMINATIONS

The Board reported the results of the R.I.B.A. Winter Examinations and of the Final and Special Examinations held at Bombay.

PROPOSED R.I.B.A. CENTENARY EXHIBITION

The Council approved the recommendation of the Art Standing Committee that an exhibition be arranged in connection with the R.I.B.A. Centenary celebrations in 1934, and that it be comprised of three sections, as follows:—

- (1) Past Gold Medallists' Work.
- (2) Prize Drawings of Selected Past Prize Winners.
- (3) Representative British Work of 100 years, 1834-1934.

The Exhibition Sub-Committee have been requested to make the necessary arrangements for this exhibition.

CONSULTING ARCHITECTS OF PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS OF INDIA

On the recommendation of the Salaried Members Committee it was decided to address a letter to the Secretary of State for India requesting him to make representations to the Provincial Governments of India urging that the services of consulting architects should be continued and not dispensed with.

VISITS OF STUDENTS TO WORKS IN PROGRESS

A letter from the Institute of Builders was submitted suggesting that it would be helpful if the question of visits of students of architecture and building to works in progress could be discussed.

The Council welcomed the suggestion and referred the matter to the Schools Committee of the Board of Architectural Education, who have arranged to meet the Committee appointed by the Institute of Builders for the purpose of this discussion.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY LECTURES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

The Council approved the recommendation of the Art Standing Committee that a sum of £5 5s. should be provided for small prizes, possibly in the form of books, for essays upon the lectures.

REVISION OF R.I.B.A. SCALE OF CHARGES

Upon the recommendation of the Practice Standing Committee the Special Committee on the Scale of Charges have been requested to consider and report upon the revision of the Conditions of Engagement, which form part of the R.I.B.A. Scale.

ALTERATION OF THE RULES OF THE NORFOLK AND NORWICH ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS

An alteration in Rule 8 of the Norfolk and Norwich Association of Architects was formally approved by the Council.

THE R.I.B.A. REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

Mr. A. B. Knapp-Fisher [F.] was appointed a member of the R.I.B.A. Registration Committee.

THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Mr. Arthur J. Davis [F.] and Mr. Bruce Flegg [Student] were appointed members of the Social Committee.

BRITISH STANDARDS INSTITUTION TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON HIGH TENSILE STRUCTURAL STEEL

Mr. L. W. Thornton White [A.] was appointed to represent the R.I.B.A. on the above Technical Committee.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY

Mr. Howard Robertson [F.] was appointed to represent the R.I.B.A. on a small joint *ad hoc* Committee representative of all sections of the building industry, which has been set up to deal with the question of propaganda and publicity.

MEMBERSHIP

The following members were elected:—

As Hon. Associates	..	..	4
As Fellows	..	..	16
As Associates	..	..	8
As Licentiates	..	..	16

Election 9 May 1932.—Applications for Membership were approved as follows:—

As Fellows	..	..	7 applications.
As Associates	..	..	18
As Licentiates	..	..	15

Resignation.—The following resignation was accepted with regret: Bernard Patrick Dwyer [L.].

Transfer to the Retired Members Class.—The following members were transferred to the Retired Members Class:—

As Retired Licentiates:—
James Bartlett.
James Morris Heber Gladwell.
Frank Rudkin.

ELECTION OF STUDENTS R.I.B.A.

The following were elected as Students R.I.B.A. at the meeting of the Council held on 9 May 1932.

ATKINS: MARIAN LISBETH, "Teela," Bayham Road, Tunbridge Wells.

CLARK: FREDERICK VICTOR WATSON, Ashdale, Owston Ferry, via Doncaster.

COUSINS: WILLIAM EDWARD, 6, Alston Road, Aigburth, Liverpool.

DAVIDSON: JOHN GEORGE, Glengarry, Cults, Aberdeenshire.

DAWSON: GRAHAM FORD, c/o Bank of New Zealand, 1, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.

EDGAR: JOHN CHARLES, 18, Waterford Road, Oxtown, Cheshire.

ESSELMONT: GORDON STANSFELD, Brig House, Brig o' Balgownie, Old Aberdeen.

FARNFIELD: KENNETH FRANK, Bickley Hall, Bickley, Kent.

GEDDES: WILLIAM JAMES, 9a, Station Road, Portessie, Buckie, Banffshire.

GOULDING: GEORGE EDWARD, "The Ash," Ashfield Road, Aigburth.

HANSOM: CHARLES FRANCIS RICHARD, 23, Durham Road, Sheffield.

HARKNESS: EUAN WILLIAM, c/o Bank of New Zealand, 1, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.

INGLIS: HARRY CHARLES, 8, Cambridge Place, Kensington, W.8.

KENNEDY: JESSIE ELIZABETH, 19, Belgrave Terrace, Aberdeen.

KNIGHT: LIONEL ETHELBERT, 28, Polmuir Road, Aberdeen.

KNOWLES: JESSIE, Absie, Culduthel, Inverness.

MASSON: JOHN, 53½, Powis Place, Aberdeen.

MUNRO: JAMES, North Bodiechell, Fyvie, Aberdeenshire.

PAPE: CARL, Blackfriars House, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs.

STALKER: GEORGE DUDLEY, 65, Cairnfield Place, Aberdeen.

STAMFORD: ALAN BARTHOLOMEW, 75, Norwood, Beverley, E. Yorks.

TODD: JOHN COMRIE, 1, Grosvenor Place, Aberdeen.

WALLER: ERNEST EDWARD, 108, Carlingford Road, West Green, London, N.15.

PROBATIONERS

During the month of April 1932 the following were registered as Probationers of the Royal Institute:—

BARNES: STANLEY EDWARD, 5, Winterbourne Road, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

BUSHELL: PHILLIP EDWARD, 63, Hursley, nr. Winchester, Hants.

CLAYTON: JOHN EDGAR, Lochnager, Whinber Lane, Prestbury, nr. Macclesfield.

CORKILL: HAROLD WILLIAM, Bank House, Peel, Isle of Man.

DAND: RALPH MIDDLETON, Hauxley Cottage, Amble, Morpeth.

DAWSON: GRAHAM FORD, c/o Bank of New Zealand, 1, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.

FYNNEY: FREDERICK BIRCH, 66, Buxton Road, Leek, Staffs.

GLOVER: JOHN HARDIE, "Gretina," Marmion Road, North Berwick.

HALLIDAY: JOHN LAWRY, "Stone Cross," Styal Road, Wilmslow, Cheshire.

HARKNESS: EUAN WILLIAM, c/o Bank of New Zealand, 1, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.

HAVERS: NORMAN, 55, Eldon Road, Bournemouth.

JOHNSON: FRANK PERCIVAL, 124, Greenway Road, Runcorn, Cheshire.

JOSEPH: JAMES DEREK, Romany-Rye, Banks Road, Sandbanks, Bournemouth.

KENNEDY: JESSIE ELIZABETH, 19, Belgrave Terrace, Aberdeen.

KING: THEODORE GORDON KIPPAX, "Lowicke," Highweek, Newton Abbot, S. Devon.

KNOWLES: JESSIE, Ashie, Culduthel, Inverness.

LAWRENCE: FREDERICK, 26, Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, Hants.

RICHARDS: WILFRID IVANHOE, 18, Sussex Street, S.W.1.

RUSSELL: VERNON FLETCHER, 189, Mt. Pleasant Road, N.17.

SCHORAH: HAROLD INESON, "Park-Gate," Mirfield.

SIMMONS: LIONEL HAROLD RAYSON, 9, Cooden Drive, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.

SNIDALL: DONALD, 35, First Avenue, Newton Hill, Wakefield.

STALKER: GEORGE DUDLEY, 65, Cairnfield Place, Aberdeen.

STEGMANN: GEORGE FREDERICK CHARLES, 4, Talbot Terrace, Lancaster Gate, W.2.

WADE: ERNEST, 122 Victoria Road, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft.

Notices

THE FIFTEENTH GENERAL MEETING

The Fifteenth General Meeting of the Session 1931-32 will be held on Monday, 13 June 1932, at 8 p.m., for the following purposes:—

To read the Minutes of the Fourteenth General Meeting held on 30 May 1932; formally to admit members attending for the first time since their election.

To read the report of the Scrutineers appointed to examine the voting papers for the election of the Council and Standing Committees for the Session 1932-33.

After the formal business has been transacted the dedication copy of Volume IX of the Wren Society will be presented to the Institute. This volume, specially bound by the Oxford Press, has been dedicated to the President and Council of the R.I.B.A. The presentation will be made by Mr. Arthur T. Bolton, F.S.A. [F.], and Mr. H. Duncan Hendry [F.], the editors of the Wren Society.

BRITISH ARCHITECTS' CONFERENCE: MANCHESTER

15-18 JUNE 1932

Final arrangements for all the events of the Conference are now being made. It is hoped that all members and students who have not already done so will at once refer to the pro-

gramme sent to them with the JOURNAL on 30 April and send in their names without delay for such of the events as they desire to take part in.

Members of the R.I.B.A. and the Allied and Associated Societies who are officials of local authorities will be cordially welcomed as delegates to the Conference.

The Railway Companies in Great Britain have agreed to issue cheap tickets to Manchester available from 13 to 20 June inclusive at the ordinary fare and one-third for the double journey, to members and their friends who attend the Conference.

Members who desire to take advantage of this special reduced fare concession must present at the booking office a signed voucher to be previously obtained from the Secretary R.I.B.A.

OVERSEAS APPOINTMENTS

Members contemplating applying for appointments overseas are recommended to communicate with the Secretary R.I.B.A., who will supply them with any available information respecting conditions of employment, cost of living, climatic conditions, etc.

AMENDMENTS TO R.I.B.A. BYE-LAWS DECLARATIONS A, B, C, AND D.

We print below a copy of a notification that has been received from the Privy Council approving the Amendments to the Declarations to be signed by Fellows, Associates, Hon. Associates and Licentiates, which were approved at the special general meetings held on 21 March and 11 April 1932.

AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WHITEHALL

The 26th day of April, 1932

BY THE LORDS OF HIS MAJESTY'S MOST HONOURABLE PRIVY COUNCIL.

WHEREAS the Royal Institute of British Architects has, in exercise of the powers in that behalf conferred on it by the Supplemental Charter dated the 28th day of March, 1887, by Resolution of the 21st March, 1932, made certain amendments to the Bye-laws of the said Institute; which Resolution was confirmed on the 11th April, 1932:

AND WHEREAS by Article 33 of the said Supplemental Charter it is provided no Bye-laws shall be of any force or validity whatever unless and until they have been approved by the Lords of the Council:

AND WHEREAS the said amendments of Bye-laws have been submitted to the Lords of the Council for allowance:

NOW, THEREFORE, Their Lordships, having taken the said amendments of Bye-laws into consideration, are pleased to allow the same as set forth in the Schedule to this Order.

M. P. A. Hankey.

SCHEDULE

AMENDMENTS OF THE BYE-LAWS OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS

DECLARATIONS REFERRED TO IN BYE-LAW 23

A. Form to be signed by a Fellow

After the word "do" delete the words "in consideration of my having been so elected," and insert the word "hereby."

B. Form to be signed by an Associate

Delete all the words between "undersigned" and "promise" and insert the words:

"being engaged in the study (or practice) of Architecture, having attained the age of twenty-one years, and having been elected an Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects, do hereby"

C. Form to be signed by an Honorary Associate

Delete all the words between "undersigned" and "promise" and insert the words:

"being interested in the study of Architecture but not following the profession of an Architect, and having been elected an Honorary Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects, do hereby"

D. Form to be signed by a Licentiate

Delete all the words between "undersigned" and "promise" and insert the words:

"being engaged in the study (or practice) of Architecture, having attained the age of thirty years and having been elected a Licentiate of the Royal Institute of British Architects, do hereby"

Competitions

SCARBOROUGH: NEW HOSPITAL BUILDINGS

The Board of Management of the Scarborough Hospital and Dispensary invite architects to submit, in open competition, designs for new hospital buildings to be erected on a site on the Woodlands Estate, Scalby Road, Scarborough.

Assessor: Mr. H. M. Fairweather [F.].

Premiums: £300, £200 and £100.

Last day for receiving designs: 1 October 1932.

Last day for questions: 16 May 1932.

The last day for applying for conditions was 1 April 1932.

STOCKHOLM: TOWN PLANNING COMPETITION

The City of Stockholm, through its town planning board, invites proposals for a town planning scheme to cover the area designated Lower Normalm, which occupies a central position in the city. The object of the competition is to secure preliminary proposals for a solution of the town planning problem, which would enable a gradual reconstruction of this district to be carried out, with due regard to the present requirements as to the capacity of the streets and the supply of light and air for the blocks of houses.

Proposals submitted will be examined by a committee consisting of the following:—

Harry Sandberg, Civic Councillor, Stockholm (Chairman).
Dr. Yngue Larsson, Civic Councillor, Stockholm (Vice-Chairman).

Gustaf Ahlbin, Stockholm.

E. G. Asplund, Stockholm.

Carl Bergsten, Stockholm.

Hermann Jansen, Berlin.

Albert Lilienberg, Director of Town Planning, Stockholm.

George L. Pepler, London.

Professor Ragnar Ostberg, (Hon. Corresponding Member R.I.B.A.), Stockholm.

Premiums: 20,000 Kr. (approx. £1,000).

15,000 Kr. (approx. £750).

10,000 Kr. (approx. £500).

and further amounts to bring the total prize money up to 60,000 Kr.

Last day for sending in proposals: 1 March 1933. Last day for questions: 1 August 1932. Documents dealing with the competition may be obtained on application to the Registrar, Town Planning Office, Stadshuset, Stockholm. Deposit 40 Kr. (approx. £2).

(Particulars have not yet been received by the R.I.B.A.).

COMPETITION FOR NEW GENERAL HOSPITAL, DUNGANNON

Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects and of its Allied Societies must not take part in the above competition, because the Conditions are not in accordance with the published Regulations of the Royal Institute for Architectural Competitions.

EASTBOURNE GRAND PARADE SCHEME COMPETITION

Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects and of its Allied Societies must not take part in the above competition, and must not submit schemes for the Grand Parade Scheme, Eastbourne, because the Conditions are not in accordance with the published Regulations of the Royal Institute for Architectural Competitions.

COMPETITION RESULT

SHEFFIELD: CHURCH AT LOW SHIREGREEN

1. Mr. Stephen Welsh [A.].

2. Messrs. Hadfield [F.], and Cawkwell [A.].

Special Mention:—

Mr. C. B. Malam Wilson.

Mr. J. C. Amory Teather [L.].

Mr. W. G. Buck [F.].

Mr. E. W. Meredith.

(All of Sheffield.)

Members' Column

CESSATION OF PRACTICE

MR. ARTHUR KEEN has given up his office in Grays Inn and his address is now Limsfield, Surrey.

NEW PARTNERSHIP

MR. J. M. SHEPPARD [F.], of 38 Bedford Place, W.C.1, has taken into partnership Mr. W. B. Stedman and Mr. Irwin G. Smith [A.A.], who have been members of his staff for a number of years past. The firm will continue to practice at the above address under the style of "J. M. Sheppard and Partners."

MR. WILLIAM WILLIAMSON [F.], of Royal Bank Buildings, Kirkcaldy, Fifeshire, has taken into partnership Mr. Harry Hubbard [A.]. The name of the firm will now be William Williamson and Hubbard.

NEW PRACTICE

MR. L. FRASER MILLER [L.] begs to announce that he has commenced practice at 28 Queen Street, Edinburgh, and will be pleased to receive trade catalogues, samples, etc.

PARTNERSHIP REQUIRED

ASSOCIATE with small practice requires to join established firm with view to partnership; or would take room at small rental with view to rendering assistance during rush periods. Apply Box No. 1752, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

MR. MELVILLE SETH-WARD [F.] will change the address of his office from 104, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W., to 15 Portman Street, Portman Square, W., on 1 June 1932, and will work in future in association with Messrs. E. B. Hoare and M. Wheeler.

MESSRS. E. B. HOARE and M. WHEELER will change the address of their office from 22 Portman Street, Portman Square, W., to 15 Portman Street, Portman Square, W., on 1 June 1932, and will work in future in association with Mr. Melville Seth-Ward.

MR. W. BAWDEN MOWBRAY [A.] has opened an office at 14 High Street, Sutton, Surrey, to which address all business correspondence in the future should be sent. Telephone: Sutton (Surrey) 2925.

MESSRS. PERCY TUBBS, SON and DUNCAN's offices will be transferred on 24 June to No. 16 Harpur Street, W.C.1. Telephone: Holborn 9631-2.

NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER

THE telephone number of Messrs. J. Hatchard-Smith and Son, 11, Haymarket, S.W., is now Whitehall 3045.

ACCOMMODATION TO LET

ARCHITECT'S Offices to Let. Member has unfurnished self-contained offices of three rooms to let in Duke Street, owing to his removal to other Offices.—Write, B. L. S., 5, Manchester Square, London, W.1.

CROYDON.—Large Room ideally situated in the centre of the town, suitable for Arbitrations, Conferences, Meetings, etc., at a nominal daily fee on application to Messrs. F. W. Rees and Partners, Chartered Architects, of 27-31, High Street, Croydon.

TO LET, a large room (20 feet by 18 feet), newly decorated, with excellent light, and with part use of Waiting Room. Rent, £80 per annum, including heating, lighting, and cleaning. W.C. district.—Apply Box No. 6532, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

TO architects and surveyors. £50 per annum will secure a half share in a City office with modern services. Situated close to Liverpool Street Tube Station. Full particulars apply Box No. 1652, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

A MEMBER in Jermyn Street, S.W., has a spare office to let for the summer. Size 16 feet by 12 feet. Rent £5 10s. per month. Furnished or unfurnished.—Apply Box No. 2052, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

SMALL unfurnished office to be let with share of general office. Bedford Row district. Share of telephone can be arranged. Inclusive modest rental. Write Box No. 2752, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

A FIRM of architects (members) with offices in the Holborn district, have a large self-contained flat and four light offices to let either together or separately at moderate rentals.—Apply Box No. 3152, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

SUTTON, SURREY.—Board Residence.—Widow of F.R.I.B.A. has accommodation for Students or others. Reasonable terms. Pleasant home. Garage. Adjoining hard courts. Apply Box No. 2852, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP

THE partnership between Mr. Arthur F. Usher [F.] and Mr. Joseph Hill [F.], under the style of Messrs. Yettis, Sturdy and Usher, has been dissolved and the practice will in future be carried on by Mr. Hill at his present address, No. 34 Gordon Square, W.C.1. The title of the firm in future will be Joseph Hill, F.R.I.B.A. (formerly Yettis, Sturdy and Usher).

SCARBOROUGH COMPETITION

Will member not submitting dispose of conditions?—Write Box 1852, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

VACANCY FOR PUPIL

MESSRS. JOHN D. CLARKE AND WORSFIELD, Architects, of 25 Hyde Gardens, Eastbourne, have vacancy in their office for a pupil.

Minutes XX

SESSION 1931-1932

At the Fourteenth General Meeting of the Session, 1931-1932, held on Monday, 30 May, 1932, at 8 p.m.

Dr. Raymond Unwin, President, in the Chair.

The attendance book was signed by 38 Fellows (including 9 members of Council), 35 Associates (including 2 Members of Council, 14 Licentiates and a very large number of visitors).

The Minutes of the 98th Annual General Meeting held on 9 May, having been published in the JOURNAL, were taken as read, confirmed, and signed as correct.

The Hon. Secretary announced the decease of:—

Glenn Brown, elected an Honorary Corresponding Member, America, in 1904.

Charles Llewellyn Hall, elected Associate 1901.

Leslie Youngman Harris, elected Associate 1921.

George Charles Campbell, elected Licentiate 1931.

and it was Resolved that the regrets of the Institute for their loss be entered on the Minutes and that a message of sympathy and condolence be conveyed to their relatives.

The following members attending for the first time since their election were formally admitted by the President:—

Alfred R. Rason [F.]

R. Lovell Phillips [I.]

Joseph Smith [A.]

Osmond Cattlin [L.]

W. H. Hayward [L.]

Miss Gertrude I. Henderson [L.]

S. Harvey Pearce [L.]

Mr. L. Sylvester Sullivan [F.] having read a Paper on "City Office Buildings," a discussion ensued and on the motion of Lt.-Col. W. G. Johns, D.S.O., Joint General Manager of Lloyds Bank, seconded by Mr. Robert Howden [F.], a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Sullivan by acclamation and was briefly responded to.

The proceedings closed at 9.45 p.m.

A.B.S. INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

HOUSE PURCHASE SCHEME

(for property in Great Britain only).

Further Privileges now Available.

The Society is able, through the services of a leading Assurance Office, to assist an Architect (or his client) in securing the capital for the purchase of a house for his own occupation, on the following terms:—

AMOUNT OF LOAN.

Property value exceeding £666, but not exceeding £2,500 75 per cent. of the value.

Property value exceeding £2,500, but not exceeding £4,500, 66½ per cent. of the value.

The value of the property is that certified by the Surveyor employed by the Office.

N.B.—Legal costs and survey fees, and, in certain cases, the amount of the first quarter's premium payment will be advanced in addition to the normal loan.

RATE OF INTEREST.

In respect of loans not exceeding £2,000 5½ per cent. gross.

" " in excess of " 5¼ " "

REPAYMENT.

By means of an Endowment Assurance which discharges the loan at the end of 15 or 20 years, or at the earlier death of the borrower.

SPECIAL CONCESSION TO ARCHITECTS.

In the case of houses in course of erection, it has been arranged that, provided the Plan and Specification have been approved by the Surveyor acting for the Office, and the amount of the loan agreed upon, and subject to the house being completed in accordance therewith, ONE HALF of the loan will be advanced on a certificate from the Office's Surveyor that the walls of the house are erected and the roof on and covered in.

NOTE.—Since 1928, over £50,000 has been loaned to architects under this scheme, and as a result over £600 has been handed to the Benevolent Society.

If a quotation is required, kindly send details of your age next birthday, approximate value of house and its exact situation, to the Secretary, A.B.S. Insurance Department, 9 Conduit Street, London, W.

It is desired to point out that the opinions of writers of articles and letters which appear in the R.I.B.A. JOURNAL must be taken as the individual opinions of their authors and not as representative expressions of the Institute.

R.I.B.A. JOURNAL.

DATES OF PUBLICATION.—1932: 18 June; 9 July; 6 August; 10 September; 20 October.

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